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Social Vulnerabilities Conference, 2020

Wednesday 15th July



Social Vulnerabilities research group



This group represents research carried out across a range of social sciences disciplines.

Post conference report

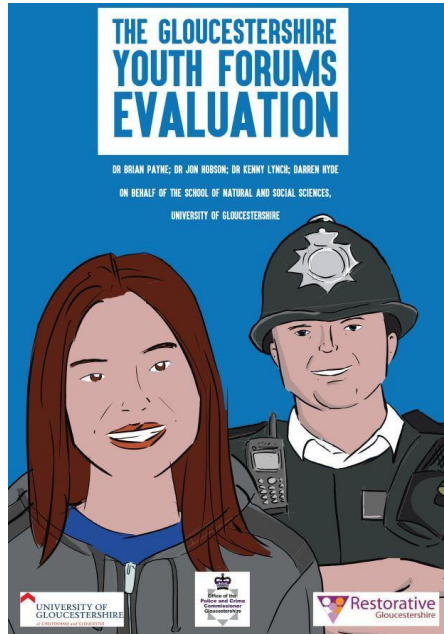
Prof. Kenny Lynch

Dr Jon Hobson

Dr Sam Scott

About the Social Vulnerabilities research group

The Social Vulnerabilities Group represents research carried out across a range of disciplines, including Human Geography, Sociology, and Criminology. The research emphasizes the importance and application of interdisciplinary approaches for better understanding the challenges facing vulnerable people and communities across different contexts. The work of group currently involves several key themes:



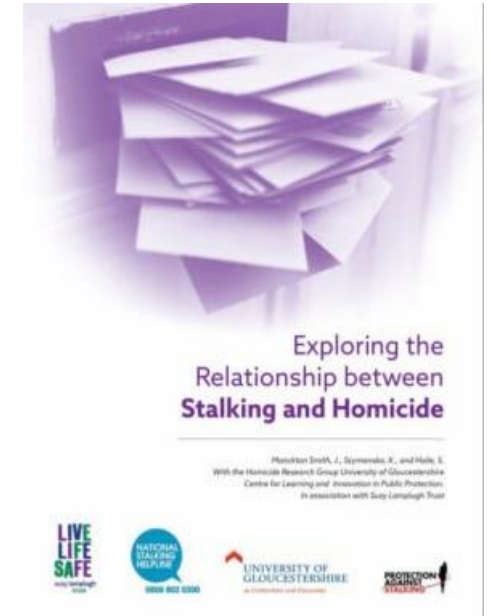
Flourishing communities ...

works to understand the issues enabling or preventing safe, healthy communities where families and individuals can flourish.



Migration, identities, and inequalities...

examines dynamics of ethnic, national and religious identities and inequalities, including the intersection of these issues with practices and processes of human mobility.



Crime and Harm Reduction...

focuses on how applied social science can help us understand patterns of crime and contribute to how best to reduce harm in communities.



Social Vulnerabilities Conference, 2020 - Schedule

Wednesday 15th July 1300 – 1700

Virtual conference

1300 - 1315 Welcome and introductions

Dr Jon Hobson and Dr Kenny Lynch

1315 - 1345 Panel 1: Migration, Identities, and Inequalities

Chair - Dr Kenny Lynch

The hierarchies of Europeanness: Vulnerabilities in the Polish migrant community

Dr Kasia Narkowicz

Labour Migration, Low-Wage Work and Liminality

Dr Sam Scott

1400 - 1530 Panel 2: Crime and Harm Reduction

Chair - Dr Jon Hobson

"It's become fashionable": Practitioner perspectives on football hooliganism involving young people

Richard Hester

The Restorative Gloucestershire Evaluation: Prisons and Police

Ella Rees and Franki Grant

Non-Fatal Strangulation: a stand-alone offence?

Dr Jane Monckton-Smith

Tackling Illegal Money Lending in Northern Ireland: Organised Crime, Paramilitarism and Community Activism.

Dr Brian Payne, Ulster University

Doing Justice Differently: Examining the challenges of implementing innovative forms of justice

Dr Susie Atherton

"Giving back and getting on with my life" Peer mentoring, desistance, and recovery of ex-offenders

Dr Sarah Nixon

1600 - 1700 Panel 3: Flourishing Communities

Chair – Dr Sam Scott

Making and maintaining peace in Sierra Leone: religion, courts, and community

Dr Kenny Lynch, Dr Jon Hobson & Kabba Bangura

Re-imagining social mobility: Moving beyond the individual to the collective

Dr Louise Folkes

Building resilience for flood prone communities

Dr Lucy Clarke

Intergenerational contact with pre-school children in care homes

Dr Hazel Roberts and Pauline Dooley

1730 - 1830 Group (virtual) meal and plenary discussion

Please see details attached to your invite email

Schedule 2020

Social Vulnerabilities research group



This group represents research carried out across a range of social sciences disciplines.

Conference Abstracts and slides

Panel 1: Migration, Identities, and Inequalities

Chair: Professor Kenny Lynch –
Professor of community and
development

Panel 2: Crime and Harm Reduction

Chair: Dr Jon Hobson –
Associate Professor of
Social Sciences

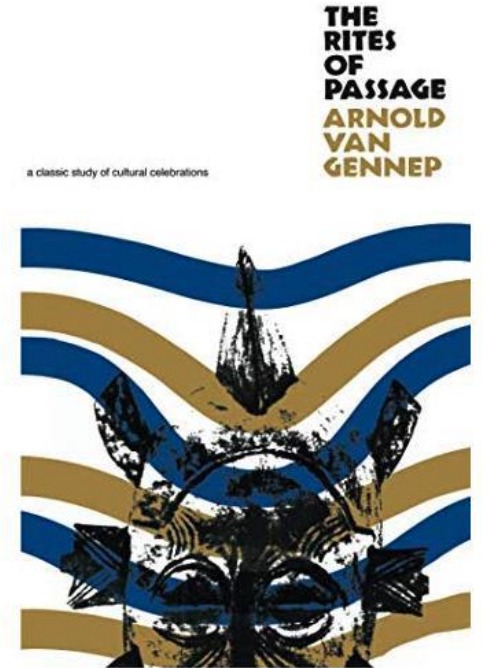
Panel 3: Flourishing Communities

Chair: Dr Sam Scott –
Course Leader for
Geography

Panel 1: Migration, Identities, and Inequalities

Presentations in this first panel considered issues around migrations and vulnerability, in particular for polish migrant communities and for those that migrate into low-paid work. Common themes included insecurity, vulnerability, and the ways in which groups manage precarious social circumstances.

Professor Kenny Lynch, Panel Chair



Social Vulnerabilities research group



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Panel 1: Migration, Identities, and Inequalities

The hierarchies of Europeanness: Vulnerabilities in the Polish migrant community

Dr Kasia Narkowicz

Polish migrants make up the biggest foreign-born population in the UK. Despite their numbers many do not feel at home in Britain. They face increased uncertainty about their lives in the UK due to their precarious situation in the context of Brexit, which is now further amplified by Covid-19. As relatively recent migrants, many Eastern Europeans lead vulnerable lives, both professionally and personally. They often work in low-skilled jobs (even if they were skilled upon arrival), renting rooms and houses with no prospect of home ownership and with a deepening sense that the home they left years ago is not home anymore, and the UK might never be. Even if Poland and many other Eastern European countries are members of the EU and geographically located within European borders, and thus benefiting from white privilege, there is still historical tension around the Europeanness (whiteness) of people from Eastern Europe. This became perhaps most evident in the Brexit vote which was, at least partially, motivated by an unwillingness towards migrants. In this talk, I will draw on some initial data from interviews that I conducted in 2019 with Polish migrants. I will discuss their vulnerabilities and the challenges they face as Eastern Europeans in current day Britain.



THE HIERARCHIES OF EUROPEANNESS:

**VULNERABILITIES IN THE POLISH
MIGRANT
COMMUNITY**

Dr Kasia Narkowicz



EU migrants have been able to “treat the UK as if it’s part of **their own country**” for **too long**



Who is a migrant?

Maïke Bohn, the3million:

- ‘Boris Johnson thinks I have been able to treat the UK as if it is part of my own country for too long. My own country – that would be Germany which I left 26 years ago. I came as what he now calls an “**unskilled migrant**”, attracted by a love for British **literature, culture** and its **university** system.’





Halla Mohieddeen @hallamohieddeen · Dec 9, 2019

This makes me feel physically sick. My Italian husband told me last night Glasgow was the only place we've lived together that really felt like home. This quote from Boris Johnson implies he's not wanted or welcome in the UK after all



Election 2019: Boris Johnson vows end to migrants 'treating Britain as if it were part of their own country' for too long, Boris Johnson said yesterday as he reprised the slogan. [thetimes.co.uk](https://www.thetimes.co.uk)



Halla Mohieddeen @hallamohieddeen · Dec 9, 2019

Yes, he did treat the UK as if it were part of his own country. He bought a house, paid tax, made friends, got involved with the community and felt like it was home. How very dare he

You've seen quite a large number of people coming in from the whole of the EU — 580 million population — able to treat the UK as though it's basically part of their own country and the problem with that is there has been no control at all and I don't think that is democratically accountable.

Racial Borders

- The privileged and desirable, the *bona fide* migrants, the proper Europeans (Franko Aas 2011)
- 'Tourists and Vagabonds' (Bauman 1998)
- Higher level of mobility for privileged (white) populations
- Relative way in which **whiteness** can be **claimed** and **taken away** from those migrants to the UK that occupy that **precarious** place of being **white** but not always **white enough**

Eastern Europe in and out of Europe

- 'It cannot be maintained that these peoples too belong to the unity of our nation; their customs and constitution have ever separated them from it. In that epoch they exercised no independent influence, but merely appear subordinate or antagonistic.'

(Leopold Von Ranke in 1824 about Central and Eastern Europe)

Last Updated: Monday, 9 June, 2003, 12:35 GMT 13:35 UK

 [E-mail this to a friend](#)

 [Printable version](#)

Poland says big Yes to EU

Poles have voted to join the European Union by a large margin, according to preliminary results from this weekend's referendum.

About 77.5% have said yes to the EU, with a turnout of around 59%, according to initial results.



Voting picked up on Sunday

At least 50% turnout was needed for the referendum to be valid.

President Aleksander Kwasniewski hailed the result, telling cheering crowds in Warsaw: "We have returned to the European family!"

Precarious whiteness

- Markers such as **speaking Polish**, having a differently sounding **name** and **clothing** that is considered unfashionable serve to **differentiate** and **racialise** Eastern Europeans despite their shared whiteness (Rzepnikowska 2019)

Narratives of precarity in the UK

- 20 interviewees with Poles in London (Narkowicz and Bodek)

Ela, arrived 30 years ago as a child

- 'Back then it was still very like **horrible** for Polish people to be there. Because like obviously it **still** is now because like **people still hate us** in a way, as a nation in England. But like back then, it was harsh stuff. Nobody wanted Polish people to come. So it was very **traumatizing** to go from like a nice place to like, you are literally in like another country.'

Helena, arrived 20 years ago

- *‘Wiesz co nie to że mi się tak nie odczuło ale raz zdarzyło mi się od razu po referendum kiedy jechałam do pracy do tego kim wsiadłam do autobusu i facet mnie zapytał się czy kupiłam walizki.’*
- ‘I had various jobs but when weekend would come and I would know that my friends [in Poland] were out partying and I sat and didn’t know what to do with myself. I felt lonely. The **language** was the biggest barrier’
- ‘You know, no [I don’t feel prejudice], **only once** straight after the **referendum** when I was sitting on the bus going to work and a man came on and asked me **if I had bought suitcases yet.**’

Marek, arrived 15 years ago

- ‘I feel comfortable and relaxed [in the UK] but to tell the truth **I am tired**... and me and my wife are **planning a return** to Poland.’
- ‘I am a bit active with the sports and was a football coach here and on several occasions we had **some issues right after Brexit**. Maybe it wasn’t as much a discrimination towards us but often we would play games and often it would be the case that the English would loose and then they would go on about Brexit like ‘**ok boys soon you will go back home**’. And some games had to be interrupted even because people would start fighting.
- ‘Before this Brexit, before the referendum, things were ok. I even remember that we would often get invited to some parties after the matches but then **after [Brexit] the contact fizzled out**. It wasn’t the whole team, just some individuals, I would say they were **uneducated, uninformed**. Many people who voted Brexit **didn’t have a clue what they were really voting for**.’

Filip, arrived 3 years ago

- *‘Nie przywiązuje do brexitu jakiejś niewiadomo jak wielkiej Wagi bo nie mam na to wpływu Ale jednak gdzieś jest tamta niepewność prawda taka że lepiej je jak nie wiem że np. mogę to cały czas bezproblemowo żyć i pracować niż się zastanawiać że będzie czy nie będzie Praxis wyroku albo czy dostanę statusy osiedle na jego oczy 1 niedostane czy będę musiał zmienić plany bo np. Anglia się okaże za droga no to gdzieś tam mi siedzi w głowie’*

- ‘I don’t attach much important to Brexit really and it **doesn’t really impact on me.**

But still somewhere in back of my head there is this **insecurity**, right, this sense of the **unknown** and not knowing what will happen. Will I get a **settled status** here, will I have to **change** my plans, maybe because England will become too **expensive** for me. Its in my head.’

Janusz, arrived 9 years ago

- 'I have the issue of feeling **a bit torn**. Because I'm always thinking about Poland, and here, well **I don't have a home**. I am renting a room for now, I won't be able to buy anything so **it just won't be my home**, simply. I'm not sure if I could have a better life elsewhere, but **I don't feel fully at home here.**'

Hierarchies of whiteness

- Eastern Europeans occupy a more hybrid space of in-betweenness. They are **not quite white enough** to feel offended by Brexit and increasingly hostile border regimes but privileged enough to **have time to pack their own bags** and be granted **indefinite leave** to remain (de Noronha 2018)

Covid-19: existing vulnerabilities amplified



News ▶ UK News ▶ Racism

Woman who attacked Polish NHS worker in pub insists she's not racist after losing job

Clare McCarthy claims she will be pursuing Polish-born Anna Rutkowska's friend "for defamation of character and loss of earnings" after 'misleading' footage was posted online of the incident in The Kingswood Colliers, Bristol

Social Vulnerabilities research group



This group represents research carried out across a range of social sciences disciplines.

Panel 1: Migration, Identities, and Inequalities

Labour Migration, Low-Wage Work and Liminality

Dr Sam Scott

Liminality – a concept initially developed by anthropologists studying tribal societies – essentially centres on a temporary ‘in-between’ state that acts as a bridge, connecting old roles to new roles, to a desired new state. The paper applies the concept of liminality to the contemporary world of work, and specifically argues that low-wage migrants often occupy liminal ‘in-between’ realms following their move abroad. Four constitutive realms to migrants’ liminality are identified in the paper: the temporal (employment), the financial (income), the spatial (family and community) and the legal (citizenship). These realms are explored in-depth by drawing on qualitative interview evidence (51 interviews) from comparative research with migrant workers, migrant employers and community stakeholders in rural areas of Norway, the UK, and the US. Having unpacked the concept of liminality as it pertains to work and migration, the paper concludes by examining the underpinning logic of this ‘in-between’ state. We argue that liminality is both part of a class mobility project for migrants eager to advance, and also of benefit to capital through the ways in which it can facilitate worker productivity and profitability.

LABOUR MIGRATION, LOW- WAGE WORK AND LIMINALITY

Sam Scott, University of Gloucestershire

RESEARCH CONTEXT

- Global Labour in Rural Societies (GLARUS) 2017-2022 research project.
- Norwegian Research Council and NTNU funded
- WP6 - international comparisons.
- Carried out in 2018-19.
- In-depth interviews with 3 groups in 3 countries.
- Centred on periphery-to-core low-wage labour migration into agriculture.
- Thanks to co-researchers Johan Fredrik Rye, Thomas Saetre Jakobsen, Anne Visser

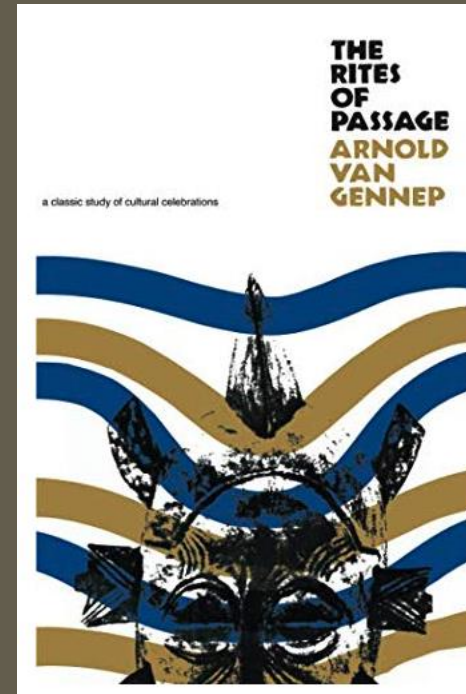
RESEARCH

| | Norway | UK | US | TOTAL |
|------------------------|--------|----|----------------|-------|
| Migrant Workers | 6 | 8 | 4 (2 withdrew) | 18 |
| Employers | 5 | 5 | 5 | 15 |
| Community Stakeholders | 7 | 5 | 6 | 18 |
| TOTAL | 18 | 18 | 15 | 51 |

- Access Issues (Community Stakeholders)
- Disclosure Issues (Migrants)

LIMINALITY

- Arnold Van Gennep: 'Rites of Passage' (1909)
- Translated 1960
- Liminality developed by Victor Turner (late 1960s)
- Anthropologists studying tribal society
- **Separation/ In-Between/ Incorporation**
- With any sacrifices worth it in long-run.





MODERN USE OF LIMINALITY

Emerged in organization / management studies and migration studies from 2000s

- Precarious work (Garsten, 1999)
- 'In-between' legal state of migrants (Menjívar, 2006)
- 'In-between' transnational spaces migrants inhabit
- Few studies have connected work, migration and liminality (Underthun, 2015; Underthun and Jordhus-Lier, 2018)



GLARUS RESEARCH

Low-wage labour migration and liminality.

1. What are main realms of liminality?
2. Are these realms transitional (liminality or limbo?).
3. Who benefits most from migrant liminality?



REALMS OF LIMINALITY

| | Initial State (Before) | Liminal State (Between) | Desired State (After) |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Temporal (Employment) | Stable or Unstable | Unstable | Stable |
| Financial (Income) | Precarious | Precarious | Secure |
| Spatial (Family & Community) | Visible | Invisible | Visible |
| Legal (Citizenship) | Citizen | Irregular or Partial Citizen | Citizen |

NB. This applies to low-wage labour migration from peripheral to core economies.

TEMPORAL LIMINALITY

- Unstable employment

“When you are working in farm...you cannot be...make any plan, you cannot make any plans for few days forward, because you never know...all depends on weather. If it is good weather, we can work two weeks without days off or something like that. But after that we have these days off which are compensate our...our time. It is Okay.” (Lithuanian Migrant Worker, Norway)

FINANCIAL LIMINALITY

- Temporal liminality associated with precarious financial position
- Unstable income and usually piece-rate performance pay
- Only after moving to permanent job and secure income that “you can have like a normal and decent life.” (Romanian Migrant, UK)

SPATIAL LIMINALITY

- Onsite lives (UK, Norway)
- “So, it's just work and waiting for another day to go to the work” (Polish Migrant, UK)
- Termed by some as a form of ‘social quarantine’
- Underpins migrant invisibility in rural areas and lack of integration



LEGAL LIMINALITY

- Where most of liminality-migration research focused
- Not major issue with free movement (Norway, UK)
- Low-wage guest worker programmes give migrants fewer rights (where the UK is headed)
- Limited or costly legal migration routes may underpin irregular migrant workers (US)

LIMINALITY VERSUS LIMBO

Liminality or limbo?

- Certainly, evidence of some nationalities moving on from agricultural work: “Because a lot of the Polish seem to have moved on from the fruit farms into, for example, the service sector. It's the Bulgarians and the Romanians now who appear to be working the fruit farms more it seems.” (Community Stakeholder, UK)
- Desired state may occur in home or host country. It may also be inter-generational.
- Lack of mobility journey for some = limbo rather than liminality.
- Limbo likely to erode work ethic and/ or lead to exit over long-term.
- Both employers and migrants have an interest in keeping realms temporary and liminal.

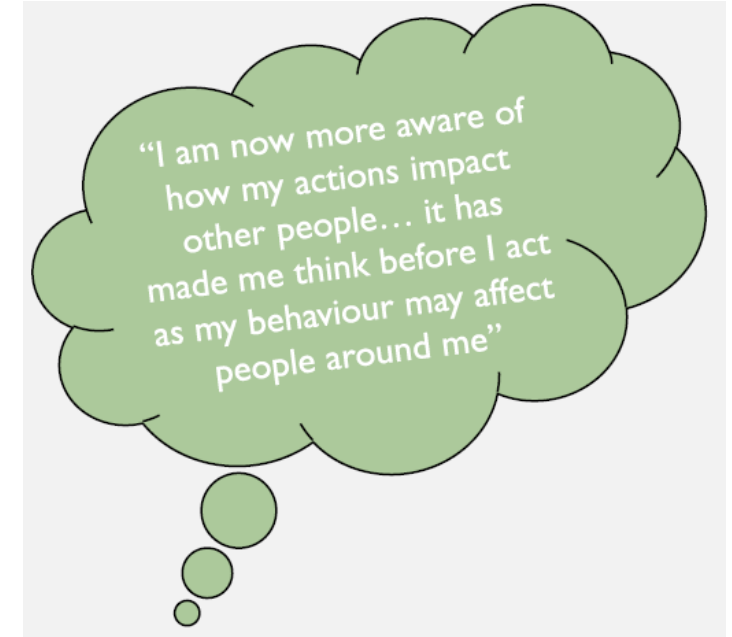
CONCLUSIONS

- Liminality rarely associated with labour migration.
- Four main liminal realms identified: temporal (employment); financial (income); spatial (family and community); legal (citizenship).
- Issues such as: not being able to plan; not having 'normal' life; constantly at work.
- Difficult to assess liminality versus limbo balance.
- Some evidence of nationalities moving out of agriculture.
- Liminality in both migrants' (class mobility project) and employers' (work ethic) interests.

Panel 2: Crime and Harm Reduction

Presentations in the second panel considered a variety of issues around crime and harm reduction. Although covering a broad range of topic, all of the work considered ways in which current approaches to managing crime and social harms could be reimaged, revisited or laws revisited.

Dr Jon Hobson, panel chair



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Panel 2: Crime and Harm Reduction

“It’s become fashionable”: Practitioner perspectives on football hooliganism involving young people

Richard Hester

Senior officers responsible for policing football highlight a concerning increase in football hooliganism involving young people in England and Wales. This study is specifically concerned with people under 18 years old that are engaged with hooliganism in connection with football matches, which is an under-researched problem despite recent high-profile incidents. Surveys and interviews with football club safety officers, and police officers involved in football policing were conducted to gain a first-hand insight into this issue. Freedom of Information requests were sent to the Home Office, to establish data trends in youth arrests, banning orders and disorder at football. Despite the concerns of senior police officers, it was found that there is no readily available Home Office data on football hooliganism involving young people. The study highlights that this issue is perceived to be increasing, with children as young as 10 being involved. Whilst there is some indication that football banning orders are being used on under 18s, this is currently seen as a last resort for police forces with a range of interventions being used in order to divert young people away from football hooliganism. However, there is no nationally adopted approach to managing this issue. Youth projects have had successful results in preventing under 18s from going on to reoffend in a football context. Best practice interventions are recommended, which if adopted by football clubs and police forces may help to minimise the impact of football violence involving young people.



Richard Hester & Nick Pamment

“It’s become fashionable”:
Practitioner perspectives on football
hooliganism involving young people

Accepted into the International Journal of Police Science & Management (22/6/20)

Why research this topic?

- Previous experience in football policing – DFO
- Major issues with ‘youth risk groups’
- Considered to be a national and emerging problem (Hopkins & Hamilton-Smith, 2014) by senior police officers (Bridge, 2010; Burke, 2016; Keegan, 2018)
- No co-ordinated response guidance for police/clubs
- No previous research specifically considers this issue
- Opportunity to divert under 18s from CJS and provide evidence based solutions

Pictures – Richard Hester





Methods

Freedom of Information (FOI) Requests

- FOI is an underutilised tool in social science research (Walby & Luscombe, 2017)
- Submitted to Home Office to establish data trends on youth arrest, FBOs and disorder incidents.

Questionnaires

- Online survey aimed at 2 specific research populations – DFOs and club safety officers.
- Sent to all professional clubs and police forces in England & Wales
- Questions aimed at establishing how prominent the issue is, and how it is managed.

Interviews

- 6 DFOs and 3 safety officers across 7 interviews.
- Covered all leagues from Premiership to National South, so as representative as possible.

Data collection from November 2018 to May 2019



Findings – the scale of the issue

FOI

Established that data is present but not disentangled

Survey data

80% of respondents considered youth hooliganism had increased over the past 5 seasons

Police officer comments:

DFO1 – *‘...it’s almost like it’s become fashionable. It’s got a lot worse since the Euros in my opinion. It was getting bigger before, but it’s definitely come back into fashion’.*

DFO5 – *‘Youth groups are problematic now, a lot more problematic. And it’s for me, it sounds bizarre, older lads understand the rules of engagement with other hooligans, youth groups don’t. They’ll go for scarfers and shirt wearers, and try and start disorder with them...across the board I think, home or away everywhere we go it seems to be the younger groups’.*



Findings – the use of FBOs

Participants stated that FBOs are used as a last resort on under 18s, however, there is potential for social desirability bias (Brancati, 2018, p. 105) in the answers provided.

The notion of proportionality to youth justice and FBOs isn't always followed

SO2 – speaking about 2 under 18s who had received FBOs for possession of pyrotechnics:

'...I thought it was quite harsh that they got a banning order against him....'

'...the other one was just a normal kid who thought it'd be fun to take a flare to the ground...pleaded guilty at the court and they gave him a banning order...which I thought was quite harsh, because I honestly think, with hindsight I could have just dealt with it internally'.

However positive schemes were identified to divert under 18s



Findings – other identified issues

Austerity

- Police not having enough resources to effectively tackle the issues
- Clubs claiming that low level offending is pushed onto them to deal with through club bans, ABCs etc.

Labelling of young persons

DFO1 – *‘we’re feeding it...we the police make them stronger and more confident and give them kudos by following them around, guarding them and stuff like that’.*

- The police ‘stop checking’ young persons may have the effect of labelling them and increasing the likelihood of future delinquency (Wiley et al., 2013), but the police don’t feel they can let the behaviour go unchecked

Safeguarding

- Police officers / clubs may be left ‘looking after’ under 18s who are vulnerable, intoxicated and hundreds of miles from home:

DFO5 – *‘we’ve got to engage with them, we can’t just let them carry on because they will get hurt eventually and I don’t want to be making that phone call to someone’s parents’.*



Solutions

Practical measures:

- Letters to parents – followed by – Home visits / School visits
- Club meeting, sign code of conduct (ABC), followed by short club bans if breached.
- Community / club based projects – eg. SO2 – arranged football match with youth group, police and club staff (involved a lecture though!)
- Community punishments for more serious offending – young offenders doing work based at the football club as a restorative disposal. Resulted in low reoffending rates and is in line with 'child friendly justice' (Goldson & Muncie, 2015)

However all this requires police forces and clubs working together to identify these young persons initially and then manage them. Policing needs the resources to do this effectively, otherwise it may become a bigger problem.



Conclusion

- Football hooliganism involving under 18s is a growing area of concern among practitioners, but currently insufficient understanding of the problem nationally
- Practitioners appear to be embedding proportionality and 'child friendly justice' into their solutions, but it is apparent that inappropriate FBOs are being issued to youths
- Range of solutions available, but require intensive police resourcing and a multi agency approach to be successful
- **Key message – if young people are diverted at the earliest possible stage, then the general problem of football hooliganism may be lessened in the future.**



Thank you very much for listening, are there any questions?



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Panel 2: Crime and Harm Reduction

Restorative Gloucestershire Evaluation: Prisons and Police ***Ella Rees and Franki Grant***

This presentation outlines a project that is evaluating different dimensions of the work undertaken by Restorative Gloucestershire. In particular, it looks at two aspects of this, each run by a Masters by Research student. The first of these, Run by Ella Rees, is on the use of restorative practice approaches in prison, in particular the development and deployment of a Restorative Reasoning course for female prisoners. The second of these, run by Franki Grant, is an examination the Police use of Out of Court Disposals that employ restorative justice. Both parts of the project use a process and outcome evaluation based on an adaption of the QUALIPREV tool, as devised by Hobson et al (2019). The data collection mainly comprises interviews with stakeholders across the relevant organisations and statistical data from the use of different schemes.



SOCIAL VULNERABILITIES CONFERENCE
2020: CRIME AND HARM REDUCTION

**THE RESTORATIVE
GLOUCESTERSHIRE EVALUATION:
PRISONS AND POLICE**



Franki Grant & Ella Rees

EVALUATION OF THE RESTORATIVE GLOUCESTERSHIRE HUB AND SPOKE MODEL

This wider project led by Dr Jon Hobson evaluates the work of Restorative Gloucestershire:

- Objective 1: To establish the breadth of Restorative Gloucestershire's services across the county
- Objective 2: To conduct a process and evaluation outcome of two specific service areas: Out of court disposals; Post-sentencing intervention
- Objective 3: To conduct an evaluation of perspectives from within Restorative Gloucestershire

Evaluation of the Restorative Gloucestershire Hub and Spoke model





Data Phase 1: Survey of Restorative Gloucestershire Partners

Involvement mapping

| Private Sector | Public Sector | Third Sector |
|---|--|---|
| An organisation that is privately owned and is geared towards making profit (Lienert, 2009) | A governmental organisation and all publicly controlled / funded agencies, enterprises, programmes, goods or services (Dube & Danescu, 2011) | A non-profit, non-governmental organisation [also referred to as voluntary sector] (Alcock, 2010) |

Area of work mapping



| Area of Work Categories | Description |
|--|---|
| Healthcare Services | Including organisations that have a focus of health within their work, including both clinical health and emotional wellbeing. |
| Community (Local) Groups and Services | Including organisations that have a focus of working within the county of Gloucestershire (including national organisations with county divisions). |
| Community (National) Groups and Services | Including organisations that work on a national level across England and Wales. |
| Policing Services and Crime Prevention | Including crime and safety initiatives working to prevent crime and work with people pre-sentence. |
| Post-Sentence Services | Including HMP Service, the Probation Services and related services (not restricted to the county of Gloucestershire). |
| Education | Including organisations that provide an educational service in some capacity, from regulated education within schools to awareness training. |
| Housing Services | Including organisations that provide both social and private housing. |
| Family Services | Including organisations that work closely with families and children. |
| Multi Focus | Including organisations that have a crossover of focuses within their areas of work. |

Sector mapping

| Categories | Relationship to Restorative Gloucestershire | |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Category A | Organisation that: is independent from Restorative Gloucestershire; has inhouse restorative practices; is actively engaged with Restorative Gloucestershire | Actively facilitated trained – facilitator trained with the organisation Actively referring – 1 x referral in 12 months from data point Actively engaged – awareness training / steering group meetings / Restorative Gloucestershire visits Referral – approaching Restorative Gloucestershire with suitable cases Connection – in active contact (e.g. regular emails, phone calls with Restorative Gloucestershire making plans for further development), or inactive contact (no future plans for further development) |
| Category B | Organisation that: is actively referring; has trained practitioners; is actively engaged | |
| Category C (1 & 2) | Organisations that: is actively referring; does not have any trained practitioners and: 1. are actively engaged / 2. are not actively engaged | |
| Category D (1 & 2) | Organisation that: is not actively referring; is actively engaged: 1. With trained practitioners / 2. Without trained practitioners | |
| Category E (1 & 2) | Organisations that are in transition with Restorative Gloucestershire, with either: 1. A growing connection / 2. A loosening connection | |

Data Phase 2: In-depth analysis of key areas

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Effectiveness of restorative justice in out-of-court disposals (police) - Franki Grant (Research student) | Effectiveness of restorative justice in post-sentencing work (prisons) - Ella Rees (Research student) | Analysis of the RGios Hub - Laura Tebbi (L6 dissertation) - Ellise Pearce-Kear (L6 dissertation) |
| QUALIPREV process and outcome analysis, including interviews with key participants | | Interviews with RGios Hub members statistical analysis of referrals and impact |

Dr Jon Hobson, Franki Grant, Ella Rees
November 2019

Hobson, Grant & Rees (2019)

MASTERS BY RESEARCH PROJECTS

Evaluation of Restorative Gloucestershire work within prison by Ella Rees

Objectives:

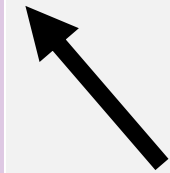
- To establish the extent of Restorative Gloucestershire's work, including the volume and nature of their work in prisons.
- To use QUALIPREV process and outcome analysis to examine the efficacy of restorative justice with a chosen prison. This will allow the assessment of how restorative processes are being addressed and integrated within a prison.
- The third outcome is to evaluate the impact of Restorative Gloucestershire's work within the chosen prison. This will be taking the results of the QUALIPREV analysis and assessing it on an individual, organisational, sector and societal level.

An evaluation of the use of restorative justice as an out-of-court disposal (OOCd) by Franki Grant

Objectives:

- To **establish the volume and type** of restorative justice used as an OOCd in Gloucestershire.
- To **assess the application** of restorative justice as an OOCd in Gloucestershire.
- To use QUALIPREV process and outcome analysis to **evaluate the efficacy** of restorative justice as an OOCd in Gloucestershire.

| Criminal Justice | Restorative Justice | Restorative Practice |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Crime is a violation of the law and the state</p> <p>Violations create guilt</p> <p>Justice requires the state to determine blame (guilt) and impose punishment</p> | <p>Crime is a violation of people and relationships</p> <p>Violations create obligations</p> <p>Justice involves victims, offenders, and community members in an effort to put things right</p> | <p>Practice isn't limited to the CJS and can be used within schools, youth work, workplaces, neighbourhoods, communities, etc, to repair harm</p> <p>Have a high control and high support, whilst confronting wrongdoings</p> |
| <p>Central Focus: Offenders getting what they deserve</p> | <p>Central Focus: Victim needs and offender responsibility for repairing harm</p> | <p>Central Focus: Affirmation of the intrinsic worth of the offender, whilst being collaborative and has a problem-solving aim</p> |



Area of focus for Ella Rees – restorative practice as *preventative* to harm



Area of focus for Franki Grant – restorative justice as *reactive* to harm

Zehr, H. (2015). The Little Book of Restorative Justice (adapted)

QUALIPREV PROCESS & OUTCOME EVALUATION TOOL

PROCESS INDICATORS

- Fidelity
- Accessibility
- Feasibility
- Cost of implementation
- Participation
- Retention
- External confounding factors

OUTCOME INDICATORS

- Offending (and problem behaviour)
- Victimisation (and problem behaviour)
- Changes in attitude towards offending behaviour
- Increased/ development of social skills
- Cost-benefit/cost-effectiveness analysis

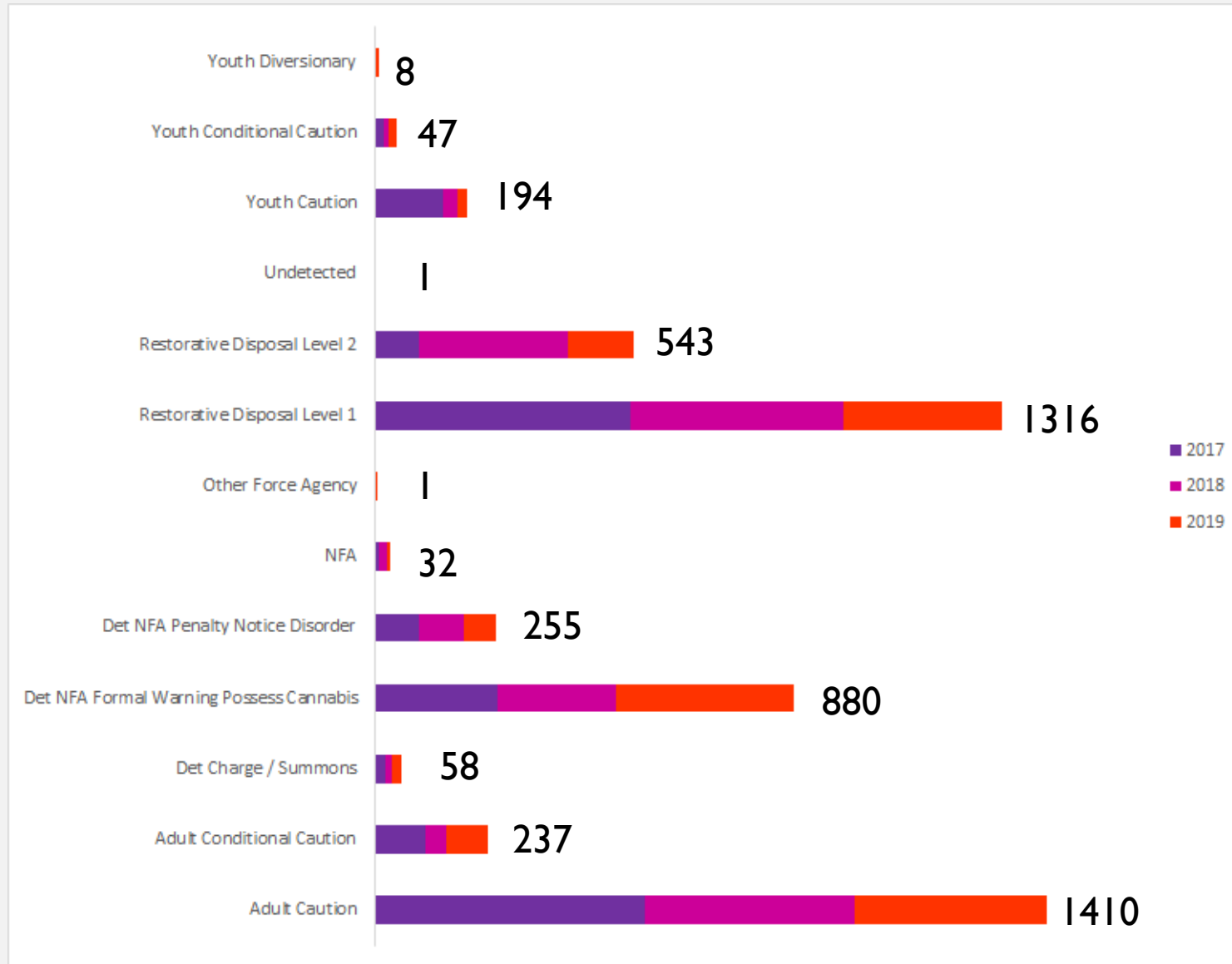
AN EVALUATION OF THE USE OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AS AN OUT-OF- COURT DISPOSAL

- Out-of-court disposals (OOCD) are police disposals which divert offenders away from the court process (traditional criminal justice system).
- Offenders who have admitted guilt can be considered for these disposals.
- Formal OOCD – Evidential threshold has been met.
- Informal OOCD - 'there & then' intervention.
- There are currently three restorative justice OOCD available – Level 1, Level 2 & Youth Restorative Intervention (YRI).
- Restorative justice OOCD do not criminalise harmers in the same sense as a caution or charge.

- This research is being funded by a police force in the South West of England
- I am employed by Restorative Gloucestershire however as I am not a police officer I am not fully an insider and so have a 'partial insider' perspective.

DATA COLLECTION

- This study uses a qualitative-dominant, multi-method approach to a process and outcome evaluation
- 12 interviews with police team leads and/or another senior member of the team with management and oversight
- Analysis of secondary statistical police data (Years 2017, 2018, 2019)



AN EVALUATION OF RESTORATIVE GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S WORK WITHIN THE PRISON SYSTEM

- This evaluation is assessing the process and outcome of a restorative practice pilot programme called *Restorative Reasoning* - which has a focus on building and restoring relationships, prevention and repair of conflict
- Griffiths et al (2019) state that restorative practice can be used anywhere to build and restore relationships, prevent and repair conflict by enabling people to communicate effectively and positively; and can be used formally or informally
- This research is funded by EDG
- The researcher is also a volunteer for Restorative Gloucestershire so the relationship to the research has been considered throughout with a reflexive diary being kept

- DATA COLLECTION

- 4 interviews with key stakeholders and 1 set of pre-set questions (adapted from interview questions due to communication difficulties during lockdown)
- *Restorative Reasoning* was composed of six sessions run by Restorative Gloucestershire, with 13 overall participants enrolled onto the programme
- Results so far have shown positive feedback, from both the participants and Restorative Gloucestershire, though external factors have been noted to have affected the programme, such as COVID-19 and limitations in the prison regime



PROGRAMME PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK EXAMPLES



“I am now more aware of how my actions impact other people... it has made me think before I act as my behaviour may affect people around me”

“I feel that I can now talk about my feelings in a group with other, I hate public but I now feel more confident”

“It has helped me a lot and helped me to have skills I can put into daily life... It has made me realise my behaviour wasn't correct and how to change it safely”

“I now have a better understanding of how my actions have impacted on my family and friends... I had never heard of it [Restorative Reasoning] before so was unsure what to expect but doing this has helped me to open up more and understand my families thoughts and feelings more”

Restorative Gloucestershire measured participants *participation*, *understanding* and *application to self* across the 6 sessions and found that all scores increased across the sessions – showing high engagement and retention for the programme

We're sorry we couldn't be here to actually present this!

- If you have any questions, please feel free to interrogate our lovely supervisor Jon
- Or contact us

s1612631@connect.glos.ac.uk Ella Rees

s1403000@connect.glos.ac.uk Franki Grant

Thank you very much and we hope you enjoyed 😊

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Social Vulnerabilities research group



This group represents research carried out across a range of social sciences disciplines.

Panel 2: Crime and Harm Reduction

Non-Fatal Strangulation: a stand-alone offence?

Dr Jane Monckton-Smith

The ongoing campaign to address domestic abuse has seen some successes in recent years, **for instance in** the government's decision to end the 'rough sex' defence. There is, however, still much work to be done. Parliament is currently considering a Domestic Abuse bill, within which there is a campaign to include Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS) as an offense. This project examines work done around this by the charity Stand Up To Domestic Abuse (SUTDA), who collected survey data from 450 respondent on the issue.



Non-Fatal Strangulation

Should it be a stand alone offence?

Results of a survey of 500 victims





- Nigella Lawson and Charles Saatchi in 2014.



NFS

- Associated with stroke in women (Monahan 2019)
- A strong association with future homicide and key predictor (Monahan 2019)
- Raises risk by 6x (Monahan 2019)
- Associated with serious trauma and PTSD (Douglas and Fitzgerald 2014)
- Largely committed against women by men (Douglas and Fitzgerald 2014)
- Strong associations with coercive control and domestic abuse (Pritchard *et al* 2017)

Current charging practices

- NFS is often not charged at all
- Where it is charged it is often a s.39 common assault
- Where there is observable bruising or redness a S.47 ABH may be charged



Why a stand alone offence?

- It is a real threat to life
- It creates serious injury
- It creates serious trauma and fear
- Many victims are brought to unconsciousness, nose bleed and other physical responses





Q1: Have you ever been strangled?

Yes



No



Q2: Were you strangled on more than
one occasion?

Yes



No



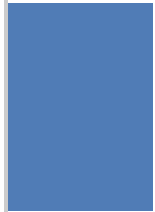
Q4: Did you suffer any after effects?

Answered: 471 Skipped: 16

Yes



No



Q5: Was the person strangling you an intimate partner?

Answered: 470 Skipped: 17

Yes

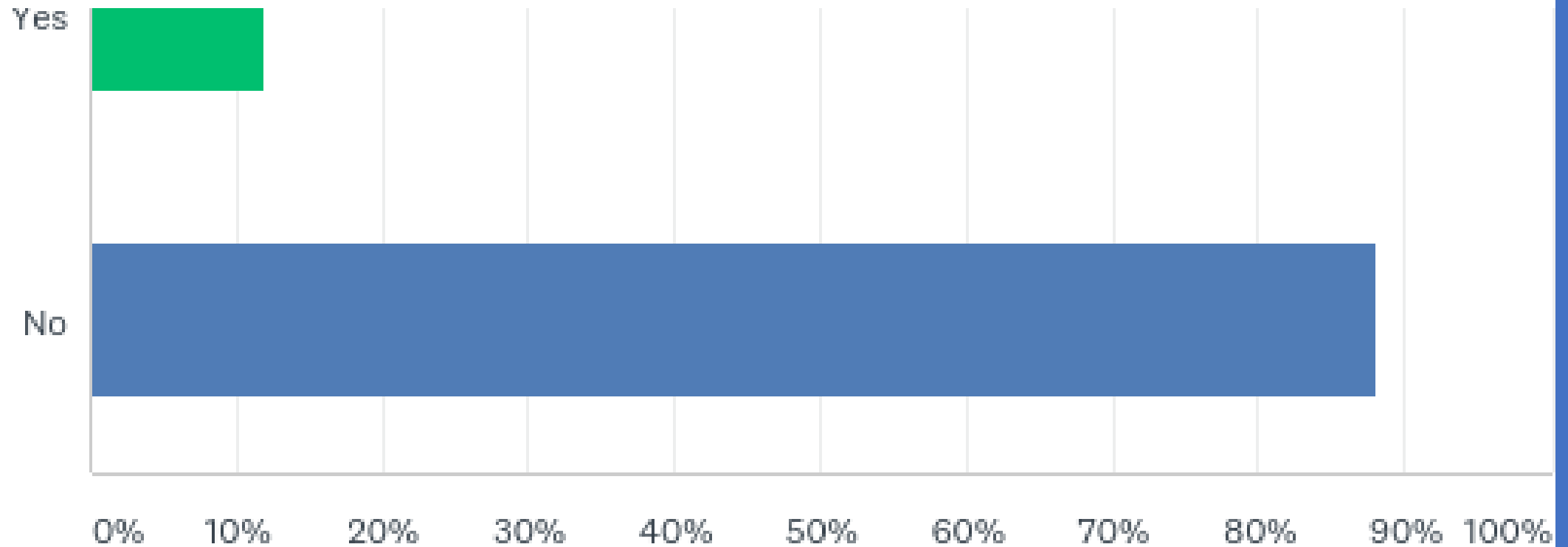


No



Q9: Have you ever been strangled
during sex?

Answered: 474 Skipped: 13

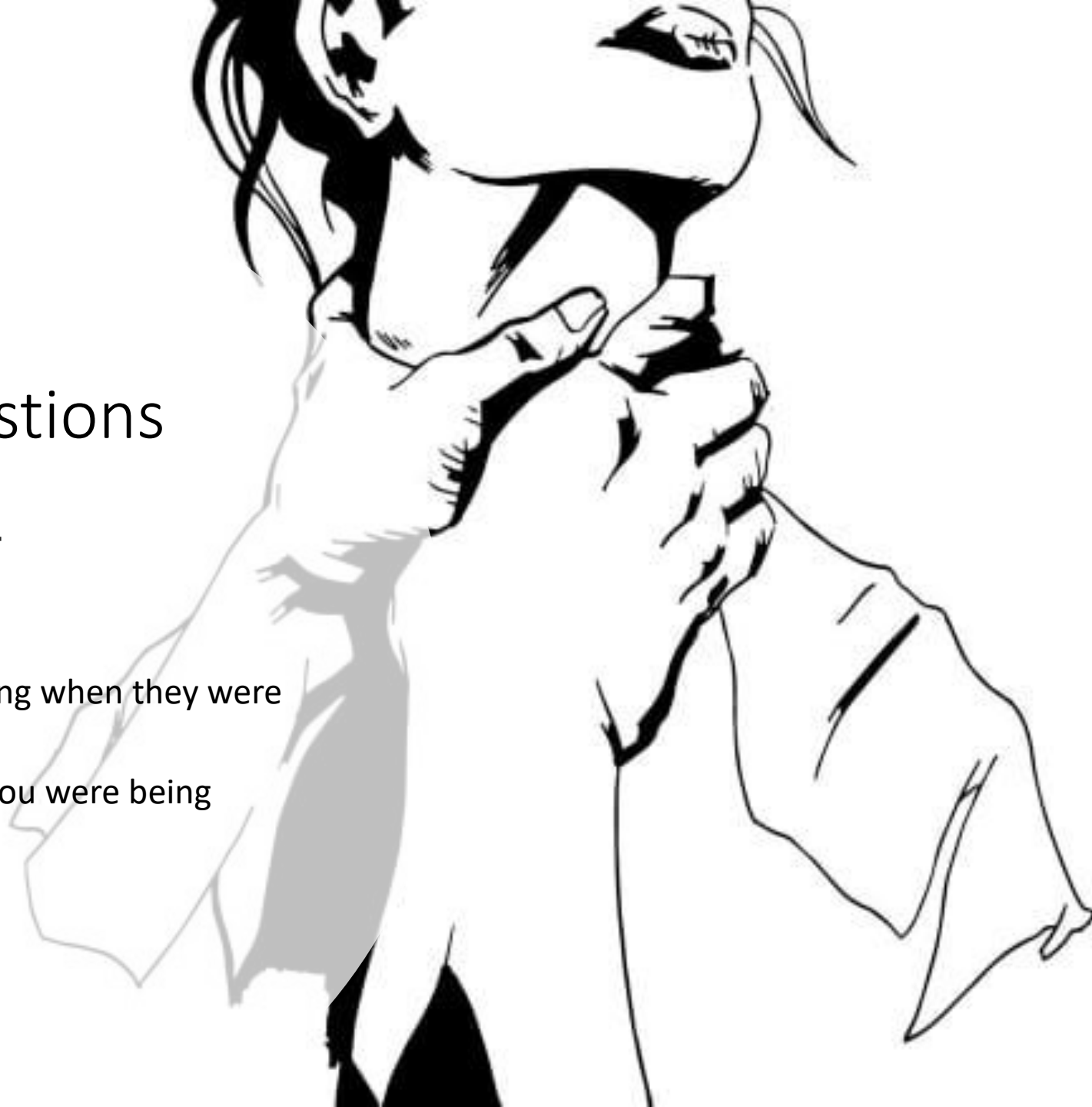


Q10: Was it consensual?

Answered: 316 Skipped: 171

Open questions

- Did the person say anything when they were strangling you?
- What did you feel when you were being strangled?



How did you feel?

- The vast majority of respondents stated they thought they were going to die. Many just stated this simply:
- 'I thought I was going to die'
- Some said things like:
- 'this is it' and 'I was thinking about my family finding me'





How did you feel?

- Some said they just gave up, thinking that death was ‘inevitable’, especially where the NFS was a pattern within the relationship.
 - Many reported losing control of their bladder or bowels and passing out. One stated that they thought they were drowning.
-



How did you feel?

- 'I felt like my head was going to explode, I was gasping for air and trying to scream and shout but could not make any real noise and felt totally helpless. I have thought on several occasions I may lose my life this way'
-

How did you feel?

- 'horrific feeling of total helplessness, thoughts of dying and nothing I could do to stop it...physically it felt like my eyes were going to pop, followed by my head and neck wanting to explode. Tunnel vision comes, buzzing that gets louder and louder until it's black. The gasp of breath when they let go is in sheer panic, confusion, fuzziness, buzzing, temporary deafness, massive headache, blurred tunnel vision, coughing, crying, spluttering, I might have accidentally urinated...You're going to die! That's it. This is the end'

What did he say?

- There were two broad responses to this question: one, that the perpetrator was explicitly threatening to kill them; and two, that the perpetrator was using sexualised insults.
- 'you can't do anything to stop me now'
- 'you're going to die. I'm going to kill you'
- 'that I should have given my children an extra kiss goodbye this morning because I was never going to see them again'
- 'slut, you don't deserve to live'

Conclusions

- The survey produced remarkably consistent responses and an interesting insight into what is going on in a strangulation assault. There are some clear conclusions from this data:
- Many NFS are happening in the context of domestic abuse and coercive control. Even NFS in a sexual context is still without consent and in a wider context of domestic abuse.
- The perpetrators are deliberately and knowingly threatening the life of the victim. They are using these words in most cases.
- The victims are experiencing what they believe is the end of their life. They are suffering extreme physical pain, and severe psychological trauma. The pain and trauma are specifically related to this particular assault of strangulation.
- There are effects and after effects that may not be seen at the time that make this a particularly serious assault. Long term physical life shortening effects. Long terms trauma and PTSD.

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Panel 2: Crime and Harm Reduction

Tackling Illegal Money Lending in Northern Ireland: Organised Crime, Paramilitarism and Community Activism.

Dr Brian Payne, Ulster University

Illegal Money lending or 'loan sharking' is the practice of providing monetary loans to members of the public outside of the main financial regulatory framework. It is a hidden practice, both because of the sense of shame often experienced by members of the public who are in financial difficulties but also because of the common practices of violence and intimidation that are employed by those involved in it. In Northern Ireland, evidence suggests that illegal money lending is carried out by a range of organised crime gangs including those affiliated with Republican and Loyalist paramilitary groups, Eastern European communities, and even Chinese Snakehead gangs. Drawing on interviews and focus groups with a range of community, citizen advocacy and law enforcement groups, this paper examines the extent of the problem and considers the impact of illegal money lending on local communities. Of particular note are efforts to prevent the use of illegal money lending including the difficulties faced in responding appropriately to a complex problem which is often linked to wider societal issues such as the illegal drugs trade, gambling addiction and consumer debt.

Tackling Illegal Money Lending in Northern Ireland: Organised Crime, Paramilitarism and Citizen Advocacy



**Brian Payne; Conor Murray;
Jonny Byrne; and Duncan
Morrow**





Introduction

- Ulster University were commissioned to explore the nature and extent of illegal money lending and problematic debt in Northern Ireland, and place these findings in the context of knowledge and experiences gained in other parts of the UK and further afield
- The research was in two stages:
 - Comprehensive literature review of all the existing research and policies relating to illegal money lending
 - In-depth semi-structured Interviews (19) and 2 focus groups with a range of public agencies and community and voluntary organisations across the jurisdiction

Key Themes to Explore:

- Scale and scope of illegal money lending
- Identify those most at risk
- Social demographic trends that contribute to this problem
- Characteristics of individuals and organisations involved
- levels of support and service provision available
- Experiences and needs of vulnerable consumers

Don't get bitten by a loan shark!

Have you or anyone you know:

- ⇒ Been offered a cash loan without paperwork?
- ⇒ Been threatened when you couldn't pay?
- ⇒ Had your bank card taken from you?
- ⇒ Had a loan which keeps growing even though you are making payments?

If you can answer yes to the above you may have been bitten by a Loan Shark.

For confidential help contact the Illegal Money Lending Team

Telephone: 0300 555 2222 (local call rate)

Email: reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk



Context: Post-conflict Northern Ireland

- The fall out from almost 30 years of violent conflict
- A nation divided along sectarian lines
- Deep distrust between state agencies and communities
- The endurance of paramilitary organisations and maintenance of brutal informal justice practices



Research Findings: Multiple applications of terminology and language used by stakeholders and the public

- In Northern Ireland, ‘illegal lending’ is defined as ‘lending without a consumer credit license as required by the Office of Fair Trading under the terms of the Consumer Credit Act’
- Respondents use a range of terms interchangeably such as ‘illegal money lending’, ‘loan sharking’ and ‘unauthorised lending’
- Respondents appeared less concerned by precise terms than with a distinction between formal (regulated) lending and informal (unregulated) lending
- Any high-interest lending was described by many participants as a major issue



Research Findings: The Hidden Nature of Illegal Money Lending

- lack of evidence or highly varied accounts of its prevalence
- Almost every interviewee referenced the hidden nature of illegal money lending. When pressed, respondents agreed that the two most important factors contributing to the hidden nature of illegal lending were fear and shame
- Many respondents categorised those involved in illegal money lending in two broad groups: paramilitaries and 'regular' members of the community
- However, there was no evidently uniform pattern of personality, affiliation or legitimacy
- Respondents agreed that all money lenders in Northern Ireland must have some form of local influence or legitimacy, which may stem from a paramilitary connection, but must have the ability to carry out enforcement measures in order to settle or recoup the debt

Research Findings: Vulnerability and the Symptoms of illegal Lending

- For many of those interviewed, the reasons that people borrowed from illegal lenders were related to key vulnerabilities, including poverty-related issues including:
 - Existing problems with chronic debt
 - Changes to the benefits system and prolonged austerity.
 - Universal Credit was repeatedly identified as a driver for illegal lending
- Symptoms included evidence of a coercive power dynamic between lender and borrower including the use of violence or intimidation, issues with mental health, and signs of overt poverty due to an inability to purchase goods and utilities or the pawning or seizure of possessions.

Research Findings: Policing and Prevention

- More than a 'purely' policing issue
- Negating the dominant label of crime in communities as always being 'paramilitary' in nature
- Financial education and the role of the Consumer Council
- Financial exclusion programmes
- Appetite for risk on the part of lenders
- Overcoming culture, convenience and routine
- The need for joined up approaches

Recommendation: Policing and Enforcement



A working group should be established between the main agencies with a stake in policing and prevention of illegal money lending in Northern Ireland, including the Consumer Council, PSNI, local councils, Trading Standards, Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC) and the National Crime Agency.

- Research informed
- Reflective of good practice elsewhere in the UK
- Mandate to produce coordinated inter-agency responses for both enforcement and prevention



Recommendation: Education

The evidence from this research suggests that there are opportunities for a more formal and rigorous focus on the educational aspects of prevention. Such an approach would provide communities, and specifically those most vulnerable, with a greater insight into the dangers of illegal lending and debt accrual, and would enhance knowledge and understanding of how to access alternative forms of finance.

- Inter-agency education forum
- Leaders include Consumer Council, Christians Against Poverty, Credit Union and Advice NI
- But also a broad spectrum of organisations – including those from the citizen advocacy, community, voluntary, housing, rehabilitation and education sectors

Recommendation: Alternative Arrangements

Government should urgently explore the potential to develop viable alternatives to illegal money lending, which should be accessible in a prompt manner without protracted administrative burdens being placed on the borrower.

- Government-led scheme
- Different perspective on risk
- Facilitating a broader range of customers



Thanks for listening!

Contact Details:

Dr Brian Payne (Subject Leader,
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Social Vulnerabilities research group



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Panel 2: Crime and Harm Reduction

Doing Justice Differently: Examining the challenges of implementing innovative forms of justice

Dr Susie Atherton

Alternative justice presents a different way to deal with crime and its impact (Carlen and Ayres-Franca, 2019), aligning with social harm perspectives of crime (Pemberton, 2007) that have enabled innovative approaches such as harm reduction to address problematic drug and alcohol use (Inciardi and Harrison, 1999). We can observe innovations in policing to improve community safety and within courts, such as community courts, set up to deal with offending which has an impact on the quality of life in the community and which adopted a problem-solving approach. These innovations follow the aims of community justice, which claim to have a transformative effect on the local community (Wolf 2007, Donoghue, 2014). This presentation examines the challenges of implementing different ways to deal with crime and disorder, based on research in Middlesbrough. The research examined local experiences of the new community court, from the perspectives of practitioners and residents. These findings were analysed in the context of secondary analysis of socio-economic conditions of the ward in Middlesbrough targeted for the piloting of the community court. The findings demonstrated that the aims of the court were hindered by broader social inequalities, political ideology and negative media representations, which focused heavily on victim perspectives and the risk to community safety. The interaction between these issues and the conditions in which people live, work and connect with each other can offer some explanation as to the persistent challenges facing those attempting to implement ways to 'do justice differently' (Mair, 2011).

Doing Justice Differently: Examining the challenges of implementing innovative forms of justice

- Dr Susie Atherton



Why do we need to examine community justice?

- House of Commons Justice Committee, 2010 - reduce the prison population, improve the effectiveness of community based sentences
- Impact of social exclusion and inequalities on communities and crime
- Recommended 'creating a well-resourced, credible, nationally-available but locally-responsive system of community sentences' (2010:8).
- Hobbs (1998) - civic associations and industry as a focal point for community - 'a context for a distinct social order'
- House of Commons Justice Committee (2015) - community sentences needed to be extricated from political rhetoric about being 'tough' on crime.

THERAPEUTIC APPROACH

- Ward (2014) cites that a key components of community courts, along with a problem-solving approach, is 'therapeutic jurisprudence' (p2).
- 'a criminal justice model that has well-being at its core and puts a human face to the delivery of justice' (p2).
- Desistance theorists - individual motivation and external factors which can help or hinder a shift in self-identity and labelling of offenders by others (Maruna, 2001; King, 2012).

TEESSIDE COMMUNITY COURT

- **Case study approach, qualitative study, with secondary analysis of 'Life in Doggy – ONS ward level statistics of the area target by the community court.**
- **Interviews CJS practitioners, volunteers and residents – working and living in the community**
- **Social domains – psycho-biographies, situated activity, social settings and contextual resources (Layder, 2006)**

- Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD2007) - North East had the highest proportion of most deprived regions, loss of industry (Redcar Steelworks), despite the attempts to compensate for this with new developments and regeneration
- **Pride despite deprivation:**
- 'this has the highest level of NEETs [not in employment, education or training] in the country, high level of unemployment and people on benefits, so huge deprivation...**a lot of aspects you might say would contribute to a deprived community but a huge love and care for their community**' (Community Court Magistrate).
- **Priorities:**
- I think all the criminal justice agencies have made the mistake of assuming that they know what the community priorities are. We were kind of addressing the wrong thing.....(Police/CJ Liaison).

LIFE IN DOGGY



WORKING IN THE COMMUNITY

- **Uncertainty and change:**

- 'When we first went out to talk to others about CJ, one of their things was, **is this an initiative which will just come and go?** You know we were all really keen on it, but I feel personally we have let them down' (Community court magistrate).
- 'High crime levels, lack of co-operation, lack of understanding, difficult for the police to get into.....**a tight knit community needs a focal point** and that can be missing sometimes.....**so the community element gets kind of eaten away by the processes of crime activity and it is really difficult to break that cycle,** (Inspector).

- **Community as a place for punishment and resolution:**

- 'The other concern we have is...there is a dispute between what the public perception is and what the reality is i.e. how the CJS works, it is an area we never get a grip of and never really will **because there is a big gap between us cautioning someone and the public wanting them hung drawn and quartered, that is really difficult to pull that together**' (Inspector).

The problem is not just the offence

- 'Now you will rarely find somebody with only one problem, **they have multiple problems....managing debt, money, they are having problems with housing, bereavement**, so these triggers that cause this' (Community Court Magistrate).

- (On community courts) It's a travesty it hasn't maintained its momentum, people need to see the benefits of it and I would like to see it come back, **it depends on who is in government**, whether they will invest. I think the CJS and its partners need to know what is going on out there. (Community Court/Police Liaison).



SOCIAL DOMAINS

- **Psycho-biographical experiences** – sense of community, but concern about safety; solving multiple problems – community needs to support this.
- **Situated activities** – decline in citizen engagement with state and third sector, loss of local amenities affecting 'community' and loss of focal points
- **Social settings** – emphasis on the transformative effects of 'problem solving' approaches, need to fully understand citizens' needs; not another gimmick, not 'soft option'
- **Contextual resources** – economic changes, political leadership shifting focus away from community courts, and back again.....

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UK criminal justice

US-style problem-solving courts planned for England and Wales

Convicted criminals will appear regularly before judges for assessment under pilot scheme aimed at keeping people out of jail

Owen Bowcott MAY 2016

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UK criminal justice

Liz Truss abandons Gove's plan for problem-solving courts

Rehabilitation system seen as too soft on crime as new justice secretary backpedals on reform

Jamie Doward

AUGUST 2016

Justice Innovation @CJInnovation · 5d
@lawsocgazette reports on @CJInnovation #TimeToGetItRight event with @DavidLammy:

"The shadow justice secretary said a problem-solving approach was needed. 'We need community courts, particularly for first and second-time offenders.'"

Keep reading:



Labour calls for community courts to tackle BAME disproportionality
lawgazette.co.uk

Justice Innovation retweeted

CCJS

@CrimeandJustice · 06 Jul
Our annual criminal justice review is out for an overview

JULY 2019

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Social Vulnerabilities research group



This group represents research carried out across a range of social sciences disciplines.

Panel 2: Crime and Harm Reduction

"Giving back and getting on with my life" Peer mentoring, desistance, and recovery of ex-offenders

Dr Sarah Nixon

Peer work and peer mentoring are dynamic social processes that have reciprocal benefits for both mentor and mentee in tackling issues around reoffending and substance misuse. Narratives of peer mentors and desistance were collected from probation peer mentors, Criminal Justice Drugs Team mentors and health trainers, to explore identity transformation and how the criminal justice system supports ex-offenders in desistance. Criminal justice practitioners were also interviewed to explore the importance of relational support networks. Themes that emerged from the research include the transformative potential of peer work and how peer workers can become role models for other offenders. Peer workers are 'experts by experience', using personal narratives of desistance to inspire hope in others. Influential criminal justice personnel are key to this process. Peer work can be the start of building a desisting identity, acting as a 'hook for change'. Peer workers are given spaces within criminal justice organisations to work, which fosters a sense of purpose, belonging, trust and responsibility. Seeing ex-offenders from a strengths-based perspective is integral to supporting ex-offender transition. However, peer workers are inconsistently validated by criminal justice personnel, which can impede their desistance, placing them in a liminal position.

“Giving back and
getting on with my life:
peer mentoring,
desistance and recovery
of ex-offenders”

Dr Sarah Nixon

What will I be talking about?

Peer mentoring in Probation and the Criminal Justice Drugs Team (CJDT)

Desistance

How does it fit with the theme of this conference?

Crime and harm reduction -

Ex-offenders become 'part of the solution' rather than 'part of the problem'

My PhD research and publication in Probation Journal

PhD research: Introductions:

Ex-prison officer from HMP Leicester

Motivation to research pro-social aspects of prisoners/probationers' behaviour

Impact of being a peer mentor upon identity transformation and desistance

De Montfort University 2013 - 2019

Interviewed 39 prisoners/probationers and 8 criminal justice staff

Transforming Rehabilitation agenda 2013 - Grayling's speech- utility of peer work

Change of focus upon peer mentoring research - not mentee/recidivism

Defining the concepts:

Peer mentoring:

Ex-offenders “working with people who are not in authority over us” and “people that are the same as us” (UN Office on Drugs and Crime 2003:8)

Desistance:

Pathways out of offending - primary desistance/secondary desistance (Maruna and Farrall 2004)

Tertiary desistance - (McNeill 2016)

What are the mechanisms of being a peer mentor that help offenders/ex-offenders to desist from further offending?

What does the literature say about peer support?

Give back- make amends- restorative justice

Act as role models for service users/prisoners/ex-offenders
(Webster 2013)

Civic reintegration (Kavanagh and Borril 2013)

Criminal past is either 'amputated' or reconstructed'
(Maruna and Roy 2007)

Generative pursuits - caring for others - altruism/empathy

Trusted by CJ personnel - relational support networks

Inspiring hope and self-efficacy in other service users that
change is possible

Can support the desistance process - identity transformation

Reciprocal qualities - 'wounded healer' and 'experts by
experience'

Giordano et al's (2002) cognitive transformation model of desistance (Thematic Analysis)

1. General openness to change
2. 'Hook for change'
3. A replacement self starts to emerge and this influences future decision making, as a cognitive blue print for future actions (Giordano et al 2002)
4. A self incompatible with further offending

“An appealing and conventional ‘replacement self’ emerges that can supplant the marginal one that must be left behind...so that it becomes inappropriate for “someone like me” to do “something like that” (Giordano et al 2002: 1001)

Giving back and making amends:

“Peer mentoring has enabled me to fulfil my ambition to put something back into society, which is what I feel I should be doing, in light of where I have been and what I have done. I want to hold the hand of someone and say “”come on pal, I can give you a hand with that””; whatever it takes to stop someone from going back inside or to help them to see their life as worthy. Some people are called to preach...I am being led down a road; this is my calling...to help other people”
(NH peer mentor)

Influential CJ Personnel - Looking Glass self (Cooley 1902)

“The decision was made to recruit those with first-hand experience of the criminal justice system; ex-offenders who have successfully turned their lives round and could be role models. I believe that instead of their former experiences being a handicap, our trained team of Health Trainers would be uniquely placed to use their past life knowledge in supporting and motivating service users to improve their health and well-being and empower them to want to lead healthier lives” (JP senior probation officer)

Influential CJ personnel support the desistance process - enabling environments

Peer mentors support the desistance of other service users:

“It was like a second home for me (the peer mentor hub)...I was there when they unlocked and they would have to boot me out at 5...I spent all day there... they had a little office with computers and other service users could go in if there was a peer mentor...I felt like I was doing something positive for others. When people are in here they aren't out robbing and scoring” (LM former peer mentor)

Giving back - Desistance

“yesterday I accompanied a young woman (27) to a medical, broken, wanted to kill herself....she is struggling with drugs and I’m sat there not using...just to be beside her and encourage her ...being there for another person who is fucked and wants to die... is the reason I get up in a morning...it is why I do what I do” (RE peer mentor)

Same guy - 10 years for armed robbery (Peer mentor, NA, community development work)

“I couldn’t even nick a penny sweet now, it just wouldn’t feel right”
(stage 4 of the model)

Key findings of my research:

Application of Giordano et al's (2002) model to peer work and desistance

Peer work can act as a 'hook for change' and can be a catalyst for desistance and/or recovery

CJ personnel are key in recognising potential and supporting desistance

Peer workers are 'experts by experience' and use personal narratives of desistance to inspire hope in others

Seeing ex-offenders from a strengths based perspective is integral to supporting ex-offender transition

Liminality - new desisting identity inconsistently validated by CJ personnel/others

Best part of my research....

Seeing recovery and desistance....

One of my interviewees Leroy - at the shop

Used to take him over for visits at HMP Leicester

10 years clean and sober

Treatment worker- started off as a peer mentor

A dad, a son - a tax payer!!!! And a friend!

Panel 3: Flourishing Communities

Presentations in this final panel considered issues around communities, and particularly the ways in which we can help them be safe, secure and flourish. This included the ways in which we deal with natural disasters and disease as well as the ways in which social cohesion, inclusion, and poverty can impact on individual and community life.

Dr Sam Scott, Panel Chair



Social Vulnerabilities research group



This group represents research carried out across a range of social sciences disciplines.

Panel 3: Flourishing Communities

Making and maintaining peace in Sierra Leone: religion, courts, and community ***Prof. Kenny Lynch, Dr Jon Hobson & Kabba Bangura***

Making the transition from war to peace and establishing justice is a challenging but vital condition of long term peacebuilding in post-conflict societies. This paper explores this post-conflict issues in Sierra Leone which suffered from a decade long civil war (1991-2002) after the neglect and corruption of the 1980s that combined have left the country languishing in poverty by most global measures. This research explores the role of different peace making and maintaining institutions in post-conflict Sierra Leone through the analysis is taken from a series of 50 interviews s conducted across the country and across social, cultural, tribal, religious and economic boundaries. It examines the role of three different sites of peace-making and maintaining. Firstly, the role of courts and particularly the United Nations Special Court for Sierra Leone that ran from January 2002 to December, 2013, convicting 23 people for crimes committed during the war, including former Liberian President Charles Taylor the first African head of state to be convicted for war crimes. Secondly, the Inter Religious Council and the role it played in helping to establish peace during the civil war and its ongoing role in mediating community conflict and supporting peace. Finally, the role of community-based organisations, typified by the group Fambul Tok, a community restorative-justice agency working across the country to mediate conflict and support local and peaceful resolution to conflict. This presentation outlines the research process and some of the initial findings from the interviews.

Dr Kenny Lynch & Dr Jon Hobson – University of Gloucestershire, UK
Kabba Bangura - Fourah Bay Coll., University of Freetown, Sierra Leone

Making and maintaining peace in Sierra Leone: the role of religion, courts, and community

Or

**Court, commission and circle: models of post-conflict
justice in Sierra Leone**

Outline

1. Introduction

2. Data collection

3. Insights:

- Interreligious Council
- Special Court for Sierra Leone
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission

4. Summary

1. Introduction

Specific research aim:

Explore the long-term legacy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone (also known as the Sierra Leone Tribunal).

Broader objectives are:

- To develop links with Sierra Leonean contacts in research and practice in relation to transitional justice, urban agriculture and youth work.
- To orientate and familiarise University of Gloucestershire, University of Otago and Ulster University researchers who are new to Sierra Leone.
- To carry out pilot interviews in national criminal justice policy and practice, community transitional justice practice and youthwork in both Freetown and Kenema.



Research Team:

Dr Kenny Lynch and Dr Jon Hobson, University of Gloucestershire (UK)

Kabba Bangura, Forough Bay coll. University of Freetown (Sierra Leone)

Professor Tony Binns and Dr Jerram Bateman, University of Otago (New Zealand)

Sierra Leone

Population: 7.65 million (WB, 2018).

Life Expectancy at birth: 54.31 (WB, 2018).

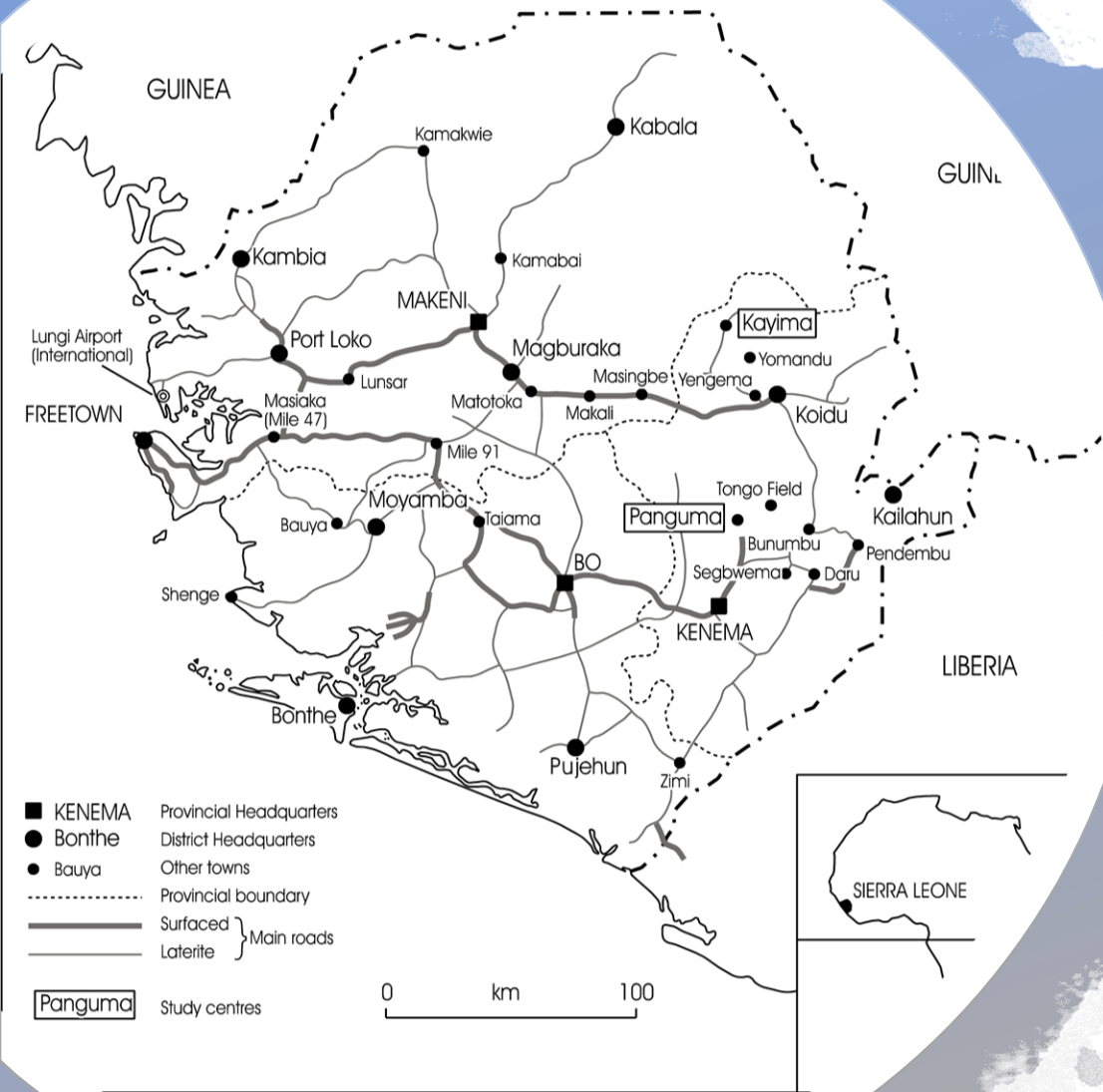
GNI/capita: US\$490 (WB, 2018).

Human Development Index: 0.438
(UNDP, 2018).
(181 out of 189 countries).

Civil War 1991-2002.

Ebola epidemic 2014-2015.

**(See: Lynch, Nel, and Binns, 2020 for
analysis of development issues in SL)**



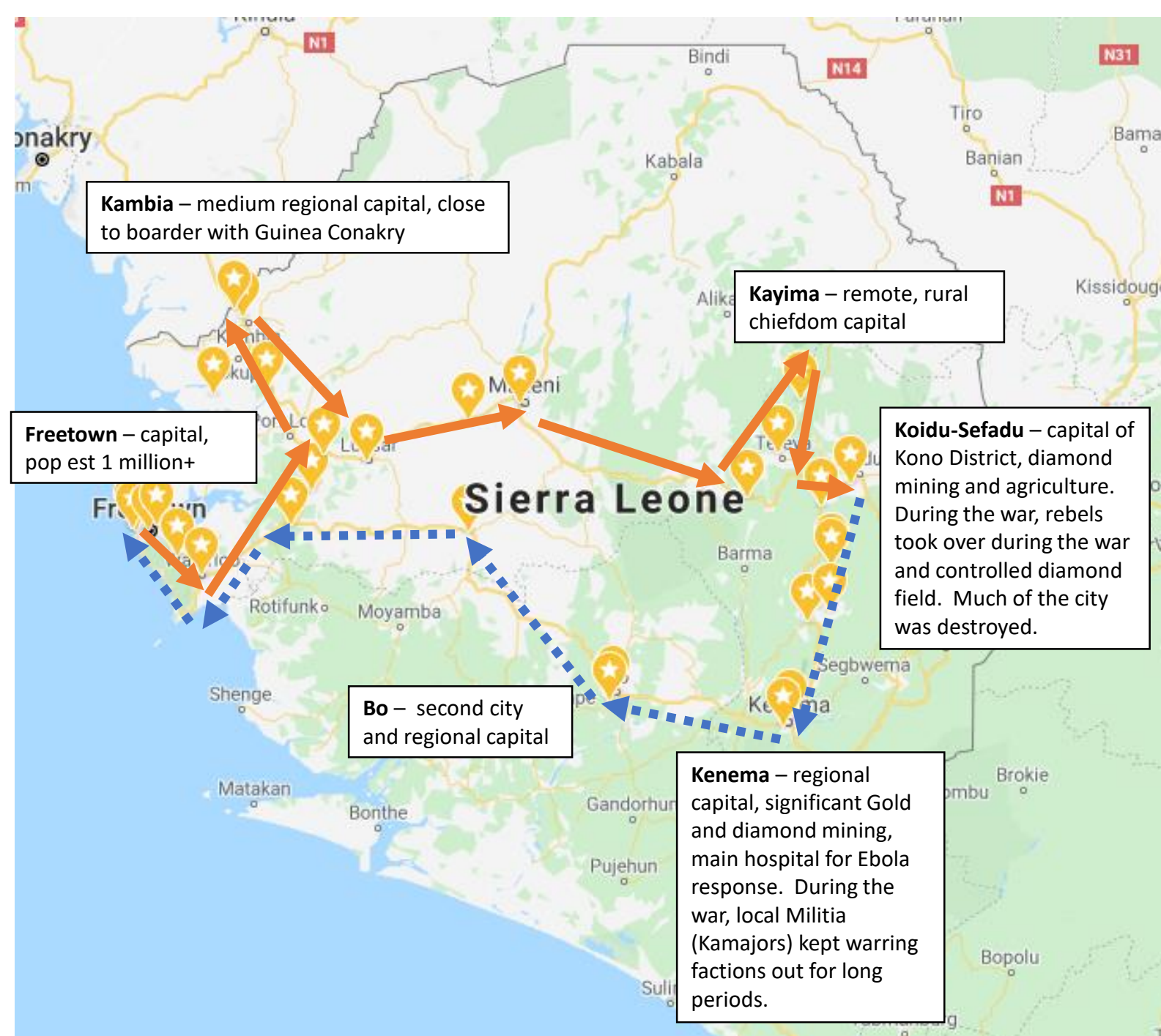


2. Data Collection

- To explore the Sierra Leonean experiences and perceptions of the Special Court and its long-term legacy on reconstruction – although it quickly became obvious in answers that we should also be asking about:
 - The Inter-religious Council
 - Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- Gather ‘everyday’ stories and experiences of post-conflict reconstruction from a diverse socio-cultural and geographical range
- Snowball/convenience sampling: 24 interviews in January by the whole team, a further 26 currently being conducted by Mr Bangura

2 weeks traveling around the country to visit as much as we could of:

- **Administrative** divisions: 14 districts and 149 chiefdoms.
- The country is **secular**,
 - 78% are Moslems.
 - 21% Christian.
 - Tolerance is exemplary.
 - Intermarriage is frequent.
- **16 ethnic** groups
 - main groups: Temne, Mende, Krio, Kono & Sherbro.
 - The Mende mainly S-E, support SLPP.
 - Temne live in N-W, support APC.
 - Each ~30% population.





3. Insights into the data



Insights: The Inter-Religious Council

The religious aspect in this country is perfect. We live together, we inter-marry together. (R21)

We wanted to let dialogue allow peace. We needed people to disarm themselves of their biases, so they are able to listen to both groups. As it took us, some time to neutralise the minds of such people. You know, to suppress their feelings against the rebels. Otherwise you cannot coordinate any peace process, if you exhibit your anger (R2)

I think partly mainly because they were not part of one of the faction or the other. But they were seen as a group that everybody could respect, trust (R23)

We do not have any religious conflicts in this country. We don't have it... we have inter-religious council... they meet together, they bring it up together, they discuss together (R11)

See: Hurd (2016) on the Inter-Religious Council of Sierra Leone as Peace Facilitator



Yes the special court, it was a good process. But the only disadvantage I believe it had, was that even though, yes the 2010 consultation process had been completed. Lawyers and magistrates should have been trained. And the Special Court should have been left open for the process to continue. (R22)

...it helped people to reconcile their differences after the war so that the country could move forwards (R14x)

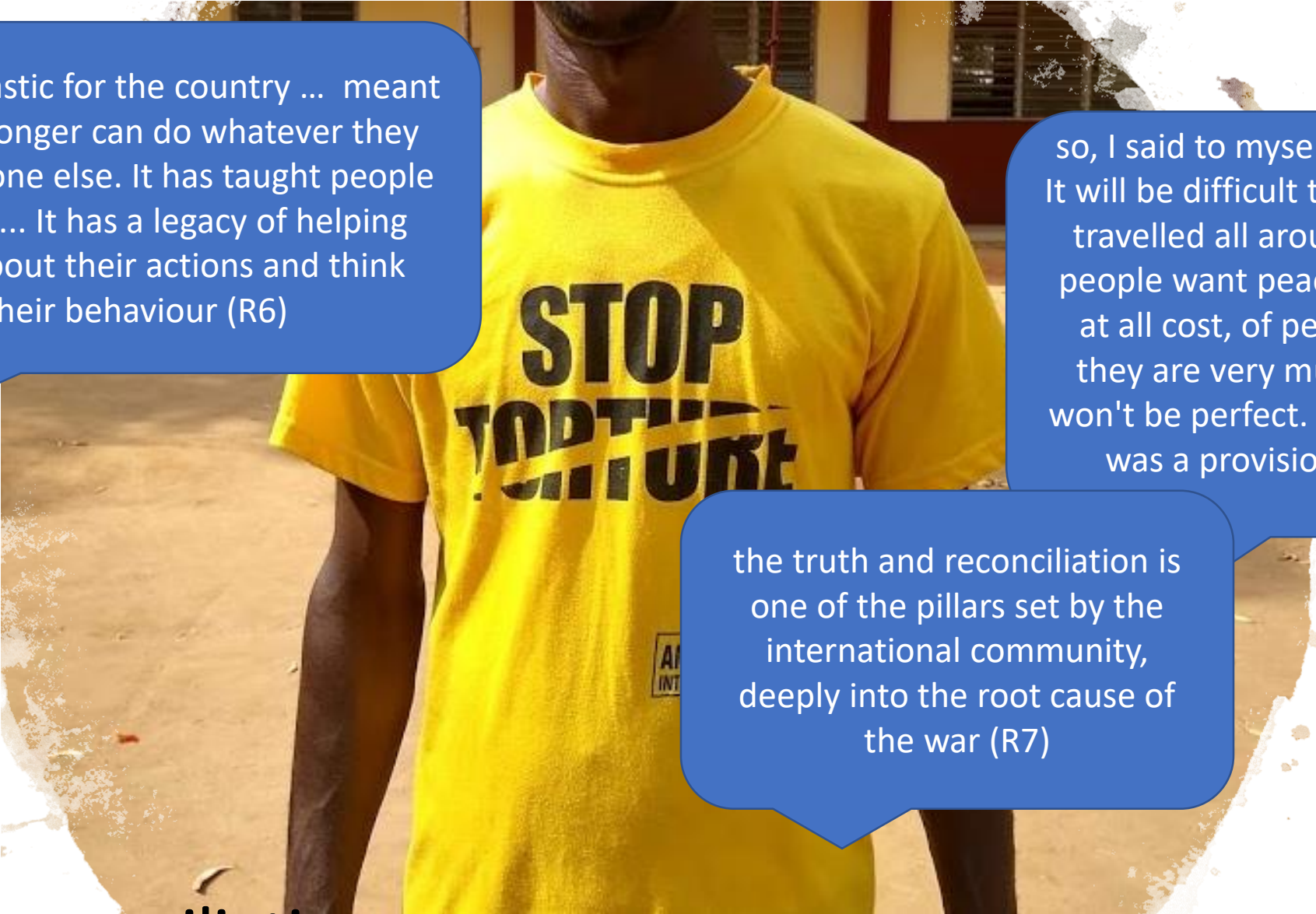
...a good thing for the country. It was a good thing for Africa. (R15x)

the special court is good... People are just going into the new century, they don't know [what happened] (R22)

APC TO BUREH BEACH
DEC. 28. 3. BORD

Insights: Special Court for Sierra Leone (2002-2013)

See: **Oosterveld** (2009) for an analysis of the SCSL on gender based crimes ; **Hobson** (2019) for analysis on difficulty of prosecuting serious international crimes



the TRC was fantastic for the country ... meant that people no longer can do whatever they feel like to someone else. It has taught people how to behave ... It has a legacy of helping people think about their actions and think about their behaviour (R6)

so, I said to myself, you know what, It will be difficult to do this because I travelled all around Sierra Leone: people want peace. I will never say at all cost, of peace at all costs... they are very much aware that it won't be perfect. Fortunately, there was a provision of a TRC (R1)

the truth and reconciliation is one of the pillars set by the international community, deeply into the root cause of the war (R7)

**Insights:
Truth and Reconciliation
Commission (2002-2004)**

See: Park (2010) for discussion of Community-based restorative justice in Sierra Leone

Summary: building and maintaining peace

At the end of it, so if we really want to ensure that we maintain the fragile peace we have, we should ensure transparency and accountability. We should make sure that the citizens are involved in decision making. We should make sure that the literary sources [about the past conflict] that are coming should filter right down to them; let it be part of the implementation so that they own it and feel we are part of it. But if you deny them that you are creating the possible avenue for a conflict. (R23)





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Panel 3: Flourishing Communities

Re-imagining social mobility: Moving beyond the individual to the collective *Dr Louise Folkes*

Discussions around social mobility have increasingly gained traction in both political and academic circles in the last two decades. The current, established conceptualisation of social mobility reduces 'success' down to individual level of educational achievement, occupational position and income. For many in working-class communities, this discourse is inaccessible or undesirable. Drawing upon thirteen family interviews with nine families collected as part of an ethnographic doctoral study, this presentation highlights how alternative narratives of social (im)mobility were constructed by working-class residents; emphasising the value of fixity, anchorage and relationality. Three key techniques were used by participants when constructing social (im)mobility narratives: the born and bred narrative; distancing from education as a route to mobility; and the construction of a distinct working-class discourse of fulfilment. Participants highlighted the value of anchorage to place and kinship, where fulfilment results from finding ontological security. The findings demonstrate that residents of a working-class community constructed alternative social mobility narratives using a relational selfhood model that held local value. Constructing the self-through-others, such as nearby family or community members, may be more salient to the working-class families in this study than the individualism propagated by dominant social mobility discourses. It is not that these families are not 'strivers' or 'lack' certain abilities, but that the focus of 'success' is not always based on individual gains alone. This presentation argues that social mobility can be conceptualised as a collective rather than individual endeavour, improving entire communities that seek ontological security instead of social class movement and dislocation.

31/07/2020

RE-IMAGINING SOCIAL MOBILITY: MOVING BEYOND THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE COLLECTIVE


Dr Louise Folkes

Social Vulnerabilities Conference
2020





What I'm covering today...

1. The entrenchment of dominant social mobility discourse
 2. Understanding social mobility: movement, measurement and emotion
 3. Outline of doctoral study
 4. Alternative social mobility narratives: 3 techniques
 5. The future of social mobility as a concept
- 



1) The entrenchment of the dominant social mobility discourse

- Social mobility has been a central tenet of social policy with cross-party support over the last two decades (Lawler and Payne, 2018).
- Political attention garnered by social mobility has notably focused on mobilising the ‘socially excluded’ and disadvantaged (Lawler, 2018).
- This discourse is appealing despite vast amounts of evidence to the contrary around the feasibility of ‘equal opportunities’ and ‘meritocracy’ to alleviate structural inequalities (Fishkin, 2014; Littler, 2018; Reay, 2013).
- Success within this understanding of social mobility is conceptually narrow, reduced to **individual level** of educational achievement, occupational position, and income. Not accessible/desirable for all



Social Mobility Commission

The Coalition Government's 'flagship' social mobility policy...

We have a group of people in our society who have become detached, unable to play a productive role in the workplace, in their families or in their communities. They are often trapped by addiction, debt, educational failure, family breakdown or welfare dependency.

HM Government (2011: 11)



2) Understanding social mobility: movement, measurement and emotion



“...stagnating levels of social mobility are a serious concern for the UK. They matter for reasons of fairness: every person should have equal opportunity to fulfil their potential” (SMCPC, 2013: 7).

- HE massification crucial for social mobility: aspirations need raising (Department for Education, 2017; HM Government, 2011). Reified as moralistic way to improve
- **Quantitative** social mobility studies: measure rates over time, intergenerational movements across income and occupational structures
- **Qualitative** social mobility studies: pick up on quant’s lack of affective aspects of mobility. Dominated by Bourdieusian-inspired approaches (Bathmaker et al, 2016; Friedman, 2014; Reay, 2018), painful mobility experiences
- **Both quant and qual** overlook the role of relationships/attachments to people and places

Chloe

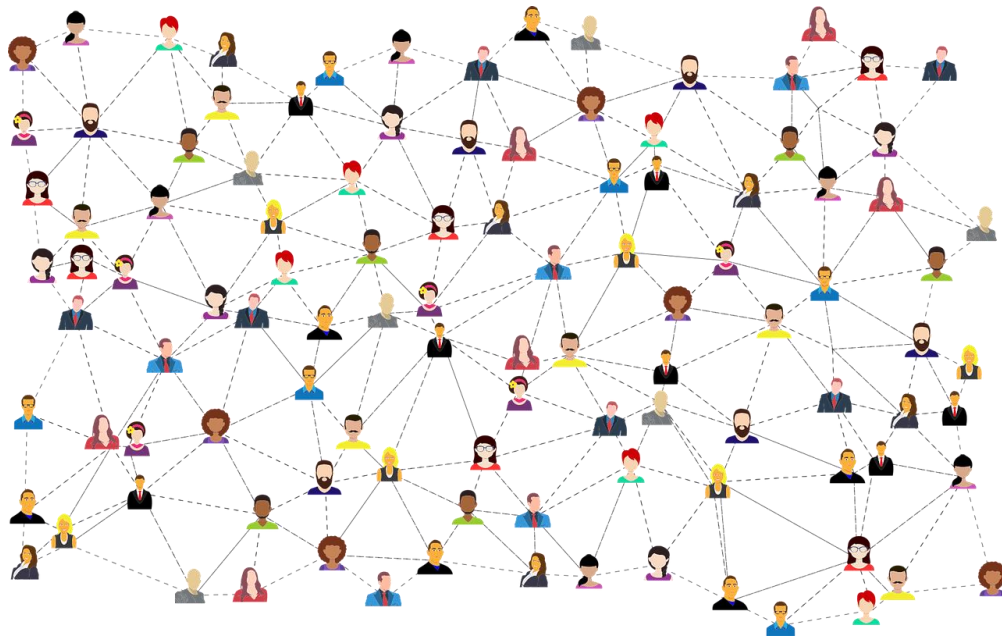
When I'm older I want to be...



3) Doctoral study outline

- Ethnographic approach in a predominantly white working-class Welsh urban suburb
- **14 months in the field:** Community volunteering, interviewing/shadowing community workers, interviewing families at home. Some use of visual & creative methods
- 9 families over 13 interviews, 25 participants and over 20 hours of audio-recorded material
- Explored how social class, place-attachment, and gender are interconnected within narratives of **social (im)mobility**, shaping the horizon of participants' trajectories
- Narrative-discursive approach to analysis (Taylor 2010)

4) Alternative social mobility narratives: 3 techniques



- Narratives constructed were complex, rich and distinct from the dominant social mobility discourse
- Notions of **fixity, relationality and anchorage** to both place and kinship underpinned many participants' narratives= held local value
- Participants situated themselves as people who **'do not belong' inside of formal education settings**
- This distancing was negated by construction of an alternative narrative which was valorised by participants, a **'working-class discourse of fulfilment'**.
- Within this narrative, aspiration and fulfilment were linked to being ontologically secure, having enough, and being 'okay' materially and emotionally (Casey, 2008; Walkerdine et al, 2001).

The 'born and bred' narrative

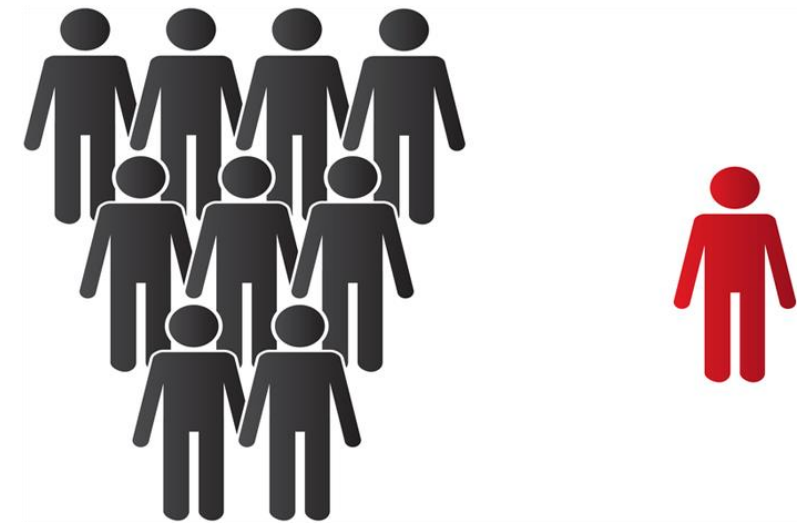


- Discursive resource used by participants when recalling memories of their lives as a way of constructing continuity in their narratives, demonstrating attachment to place through length of residence, close kinship ties and a sense of anchoring (Degnen, 2005; Taylor, 2010).
- The born and bred narrative held value within Hiraeth, and interviews demonstrated a strong attachment to place despite the dominant social mobility narrative's focus on individual movement and improvement.

LF: And why have you stayed?

Tanya: Cos, I don't know, I got married at twenty-one so um, we bought our first house in Hiraeth, when we were in our twenties so um, just wanted to stay close to my parents and stuff, it just seemed [LF: mm] why, you know, *laughs* nowhere else seemed any better so we may as well stay here hadn't we? *laughs* [LF: *laughs*] yeah and my grandparents live in Hiraeth as well so [LF: so you've got a lot of family nearby] yeah, yeah, yeah, both sets of grandparents live in Hiraeth, and my parents, so [LF: oh everyone's here *laughs*]...so yeah, we just stayed *laughs* and then we had um, my eldest when I, was twenty-three, so obviously then he started at Hiraeth as well so [LF: mm], once you're here, you're here aren't you? *laughs* stay near the babysitters once you have children! *laughs*

Discomfort and distancing relationships to education



- It was common to hear stories of turbulent experiences of the education system.
- For many, the focus was on getting out of education as soon as possible to gain some on-the-job training and start earning.
- Investing in your family, being 'okay' and having 'enough' in order to avoid daily struggles were often more essential to residents' narratives than individualised projects of social mobility through education (Casey, 2008; Walkerdine et al, 2001).
- Often it is difficult circumstances from which people want to escape, not their families and their values (Mallman, 2018).

Lisa: ...so, no I didn't particularly enjoy school, I was glad to get out of there, and then when I when I left and went to college I was, that took me years to actually finish the college course [LF: mm], that's because I just didn't, just didn't enjoy being at school [LF: yeah] then you have to do work and if I fell behind I used to start panicking and think oh I'll just quit and start again next year [LF: yeah], so eventually managed to finish my um, teaching assistant...

Working-class discourse of fulfilment

- In both their aspirations for their children's futures and reflections on their lives, participants constructed alternative value practices which were associated with success and fulfilment.
- Fulfilment, success and ontological security were characterised through relationships with others, rather than status achieved through employment or income.
- This is arguably an example of the 'hidden rewards' of class which flourish in working-class communities (McKenzie, 2015).



Tanya: I just want them to grow up and be happy [LF: yeah] innit you know, meet someone nice, get married [LF: yeah] manage to buy a house *laughs* don't ask me for the money *laughs* um, just be nice people isn't it? [LF: yeah, yeah]...as I say, helping with the church, helping with the scouts [LF: yeah] helping with anything else that anyone asks you know [LF: yeah] so you know, yeah, I, I've always said that if you don't want to go to university that's fine [LF: yeah], cos obviously we didn't and we've done alright [LF: mm] but we'll support you.

Kathryn: No, none of us need to be rich, you just need to be able to keep a roof over your head

LF: Yeah, and just, have some enjoyment

Kathryn: And people do get carried away with wanting to be rich, I've always been the same, as long as I earn enough, to feed myself and clothe my kids that was [LF: mm] just as well really, in nursing *laughs* you're never gunna be rich! [LF: no]



5) The future of social mobility as a concept

- Currently lack of **recognition of value** inherent in alternative narratives typically constructed in w/c communities, but also **stigmatisation** of those who stay close to home.
- Participants emphasised the value of anchorage to place and kinship, where fulfilment results from finding ontological security through a model of **relational selfhood** as opposed to individual improvement through capital accumulation.
- Social mobility could be **widened on a collective level** to incorporate a multitude of values and trajectories (Fishkin 2014; Calder 2016).
- By tapping into residents' strong attachment and belonging to place, investing in and improving **entire communities** will aid feelings of security and ontological belonging that are so valued in w/c communities.
- A **collective understanding** of social mobility could therefore be more conducive in **ensuring significant improvements** in people's lives who reject dominant narratives of social mobility (Bradley, 2018; Reay, 2018).



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!

Any questions, please ask 😊

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Social Vulnerabilities research group



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Panel 3: Flourishing Communities

Building resilience for flood prone communities

Dr Lucy Clarke

Flooding is one of the main natural hazards in the UK, with 5.2 million properties currently at risk of flooding and this is predicted to increase in the coming decades. Since the implementation of the European Union Water Framework Directive in 2000 there has been a change in the way that rivers are managed to mitigate flood risk, and an increasingly participatory approach to the governance of water bodies. Natural flood management (NFM) schemes utilise a suite of techniques over a landscape scale to attenuate or 'slow the flow' of water, and in addition to reducing flood risk these have the potential to deliver multiple benefits to wider beneficiaries for water quality, biodiversity, green spaces and farming. Early engagement from a wide range of stakeholders has been seen as vital to the success of NFM and increasingly Government funding associated with implementation is bottom-up and community led. There are a number of funded NFM projects across Gloucestershire and Worcestershire which have developed from concerns raised from the local flood action groups. Having been involved in the design and development of these from different stages of implementation it has provided a unique opportunity to evaluate how accessible it is for communities to access the help provided and how researchers can better support this. Additionally, these projects have provided an opportunity to explore how community engagement, education in flooding, and citizen science monitoring can help to promote understanding a better understanding and relationship with water courses and build resilience in flood prone communities, as well as investigating the risks and barriers associated with this.

Building resilience for flood prone communities

DR LUCY CLARKE

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES SUBJECT COMMUNITY





**AROUND
2.4 MILLION**
UK PROPERTIES ARE
AT RISK FROM RIVER
AND COASTAL
FLOODING EACH
YEAR.



**A FURTHER
2.8 MILLION**
UK PROPERTIES
ARE SUSCEPTIBLE
TO SURFACE
WATER
FLOODING.



ONE IN SIX
PROPERTIES IN THE
UK ARE LOCATED
IN AREAS WHERE
THERE IS A
SIGNIFICANT RISK
OF FLOODING.



**FLOODING CAN COST
THE ECONOMY UP TO
£100,000
PER HOUR PER
MAJOR ROAD
AFFECTED.**



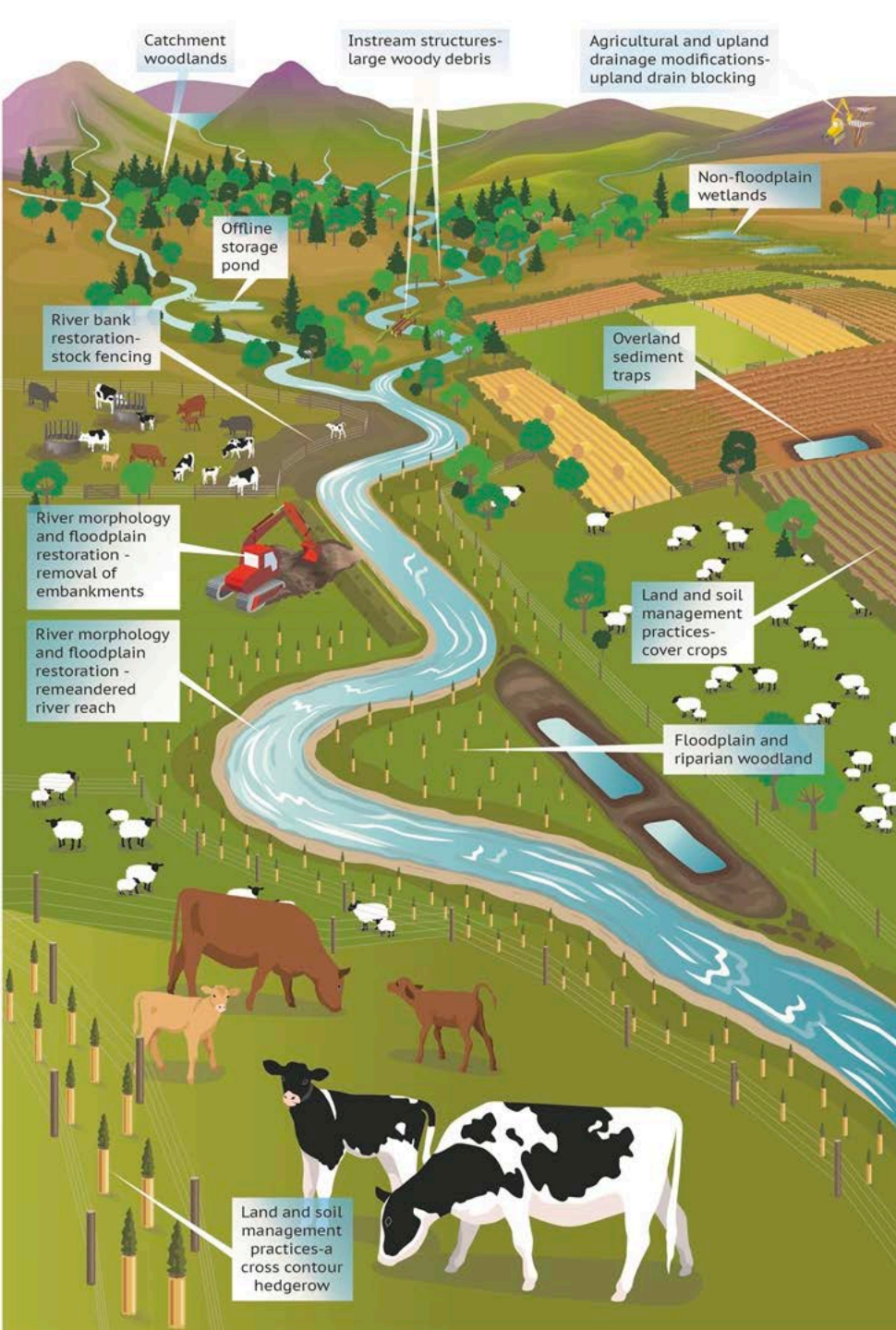
**AS MANY AS
40% OF
BUSINESSES DO
NOT REOPEN
AFTER SUFFERING
FROM A FLOOD.**



**MENTAL HEALTH
IMPACTS OF
FLOODING CAN BE
PREVALENT FOR
MORE THAN 2
YEARS.**

Flood risk

- ▶ One of the main risks in the UK
- ▶ Expected to increase into future
- ▶ Gloucestershire and Worcestershire high flood risk areas

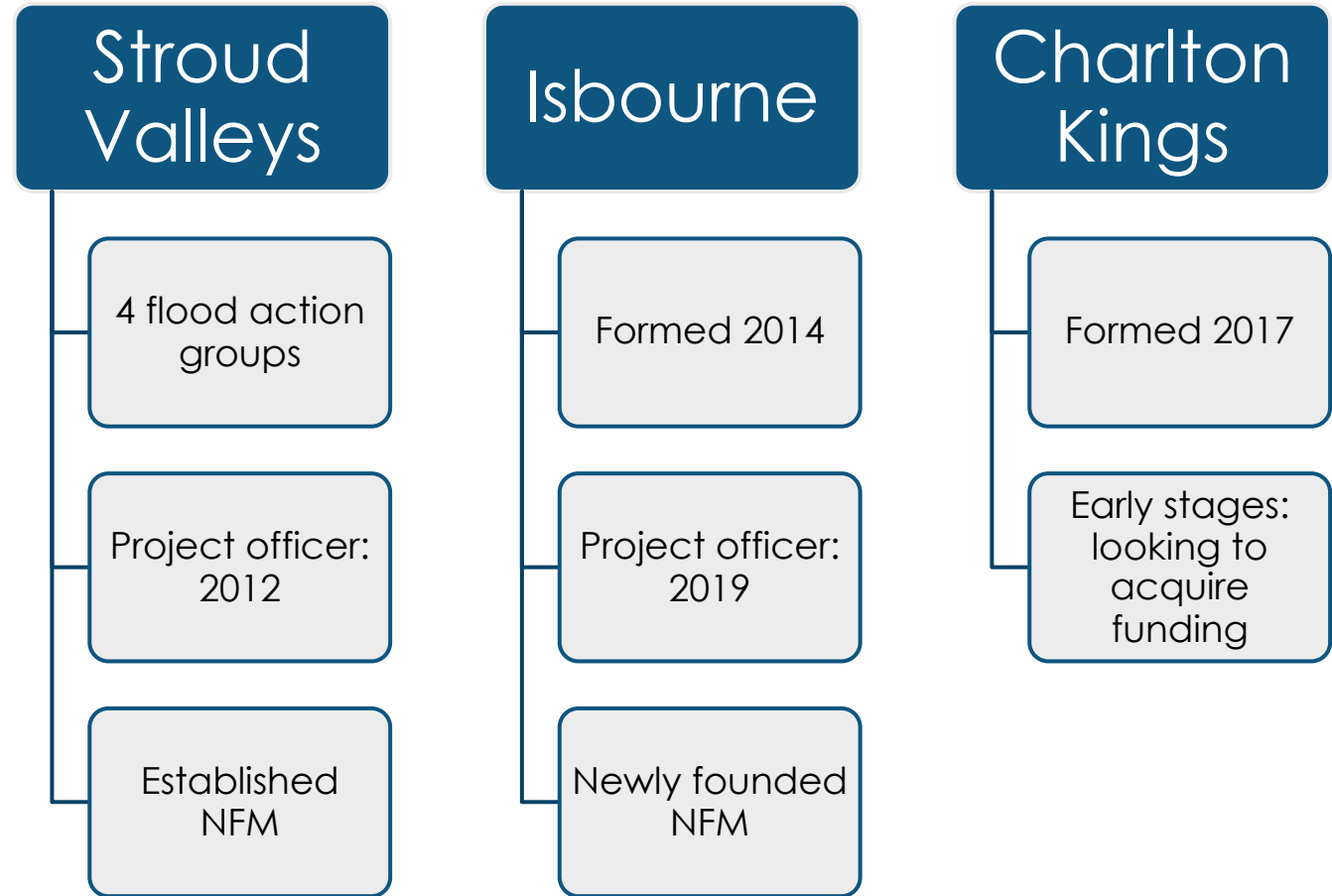


Natural solutions

- ▶ Natural flood management (NFM)
 - ▶ Working with natural processes
 - ▶ Making space for water
 - ▶ Slowing the flow
 - ▶ Holistic water management
 - ▶ Community involvement
 - ▶ Multiple benefits

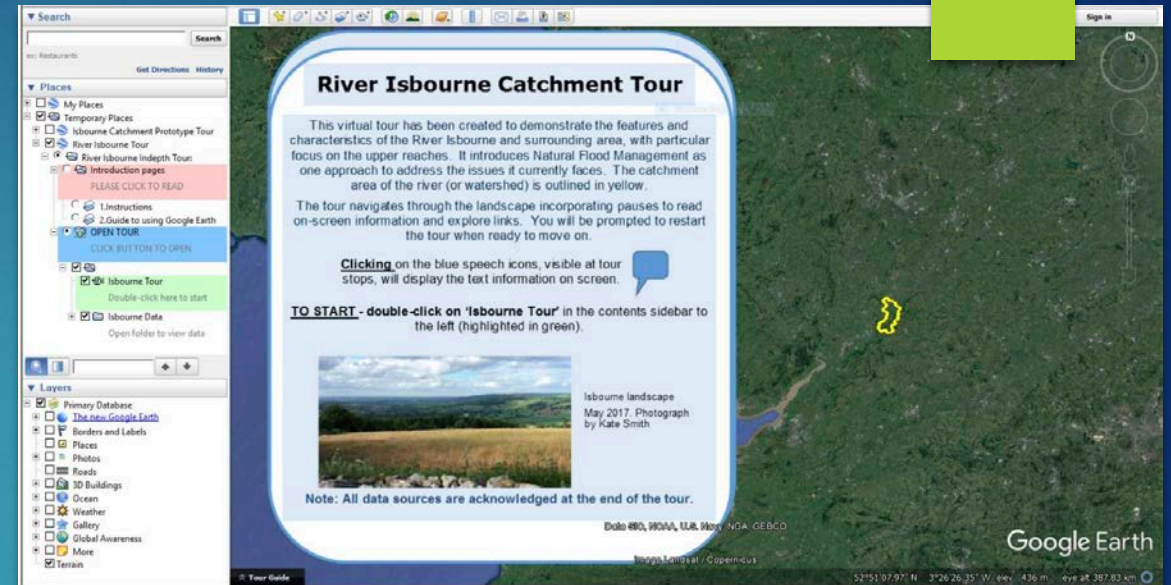
Empowering communities

- ▶ UK Gov funding bottom-up and community led
- ▶ Relies on communities having knowledge-base and understanding requirements
- ▶ Work with Chris Short: how to assist communities to empower them



Building resilient communities

- ▶ Increasing community knowledge
- ▶ Improving individual resilience
- ▶ Maintaining interest
- ▶ Understanding resistance and non-compliance



ANY QUESTIONS?

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Stroud floods in 2007 (photo: Chris Uttley)



Stroud Flood Action Groups (photo: Chris Uttley)

Social Vulnerabilities research group



This group represents research carried out across a range of social sciences disciplines.

Panel 3: Flourishing Communities

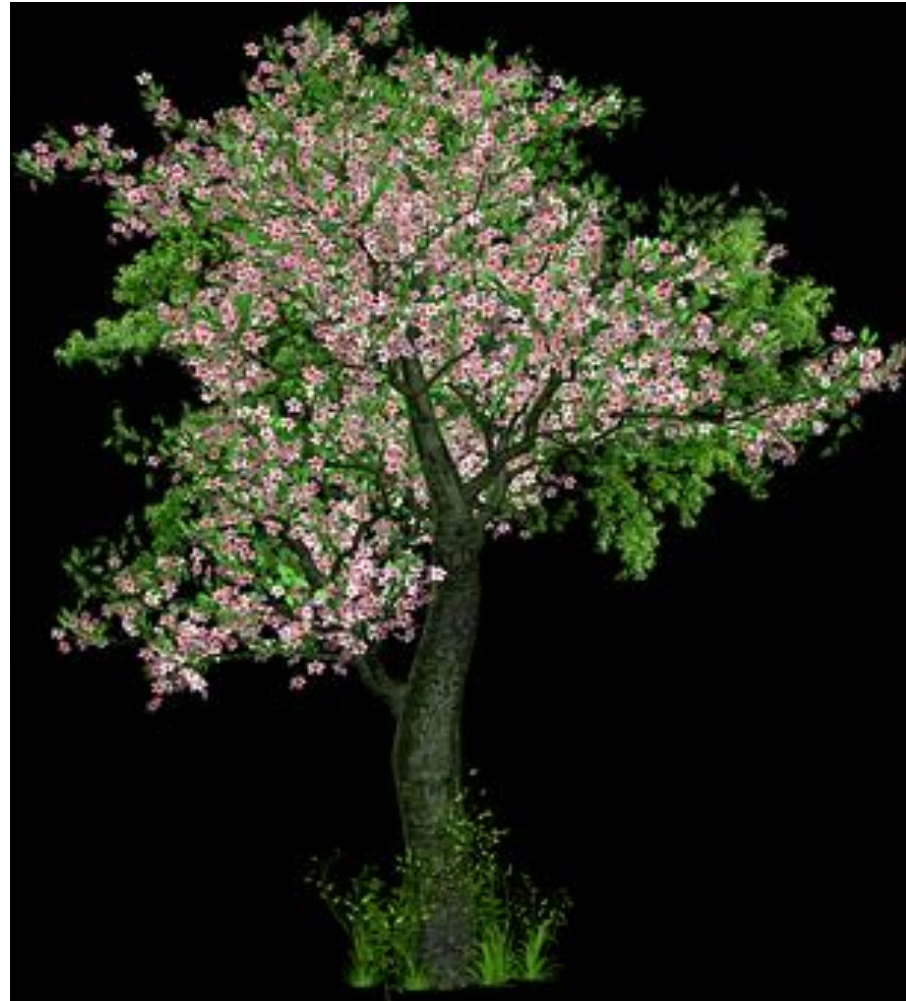
Intergenerational contact with pre-school children in care homes

Dr Hazel Roberts and Pauline Dooley

This early stage project seeks to explore the rationale for and benefits of schemes which enable pre-school children and their parents to make contact with elderly residents in care home settings. We are particularly interested in exploring the emotional experiences of those observing and participating in such intergenerational practice activities (Cook, 2011). Three examples of these schemes have been identified in Cheltenham, with potential opportunities to explore practice at other geographical locations within the UK. Our original intention was to observe such events taking place, but in the current Covid-19 climate an alternative methodology making use of online interviews with project leaders is proposed. One option for further development is a national survey of parents who have taken part in intergenerational contact schemes/projects with pre-school children. We welcome feedback from colleagues to help inform the development of the research.

INTERGENERATIONAL CONTACT BETWEEN PRE- SCHOOL CHILDREN AND RESIDENTS IN CARE HOMES

Hazel Roberts
with Pauline Dooley



Context

- TV programme: *Old People's Home for 4 Year Olds*
 - ▣ Has influenced many new initiatives between nurseries and care homes
 - ▣ Measured increases in cognition/memory, mood, and physical ability in the older people
- Crisis in social care/isolation
- Loneliness
- Deprivation



Research context

- Some research identified so far in this area focuses on school children (Di Bona, Kennedy and Mountain, 2019) or pre-school children in daycare (Jarrott and Bruno, 2007; Lee, Camp and Malone, 2007).
- What about schemes where parents attend with their children?
 - Intergenerational playgroups (Scropeta, Colvin and Sladen, 2014)
- Benefits for carers, children (Rosebrook, 2002) as well as residents?
 - Increase in children's positive attitudes towards older people (Holmes, 2009)
- UK context?
- Challenges?
 - E.g. working with people with dementia
 - Funding
 - Sustainability (Jarrott and Bruno, 2007)

Research design ideas

- Original idea: participant observation!
- New idea: open ended online interviews with initiative organisers
 - ▣ Four schemes identified (3 Cheltenham based)
 - ▣ Further care home and Age UK contacts
 - ▣ Snowball sample?
- Results to feed into survey for parents attending initiatives with pre-school children
 - ▣ Potential for follow up interviews (funding?)

Comments/thoughts/links welcome!

References

Di Bona, L., Kennedy, S. and Mountain, G. (2019) 'Adopt a Care Home: An intergenerational initiative bringing children into care homes', *Dementia*, 18(5), 1679-1694

Holmes, C. L. (2009) 'An Intergenerational Program with Benefits', *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 37(2), 113-119. doi: 10.1007/s10643-009-0329-9.

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Lee, M., Camp, C. and Malone, M. (2007) Effects of intergenerational Montessori-based activities programming on engagement of nursing home residents with dementia. *Clinical Interventions in Aging*, 2(3), 477-483

Rosebrook, V. (2002) 'Intergenerational connections enhance the personal/social development of young children', *International Journal of Early Childhood*, 34(2), 30-41

Skropeta, C.M., Colvin, A. and Sladen, S. (2014) 'An Evaluative Study of the Benefits of Participating in Intergenerational Playgroups in Aged Care for Older People', *BMC geriatrics*, 14, 109-109. doi: 10.1186/1471-2318-14-109.